

9-1-2012

Furman Magazine. Volume 55, Issue 3 - Full Issue

Furman University

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Recommended Citation

University, Furman (2012) "Furman Magazine. Volume 55, Issue 3 - Full Issue," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 55 : Iss. 3 , Article 1.
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol55/iss3/1>

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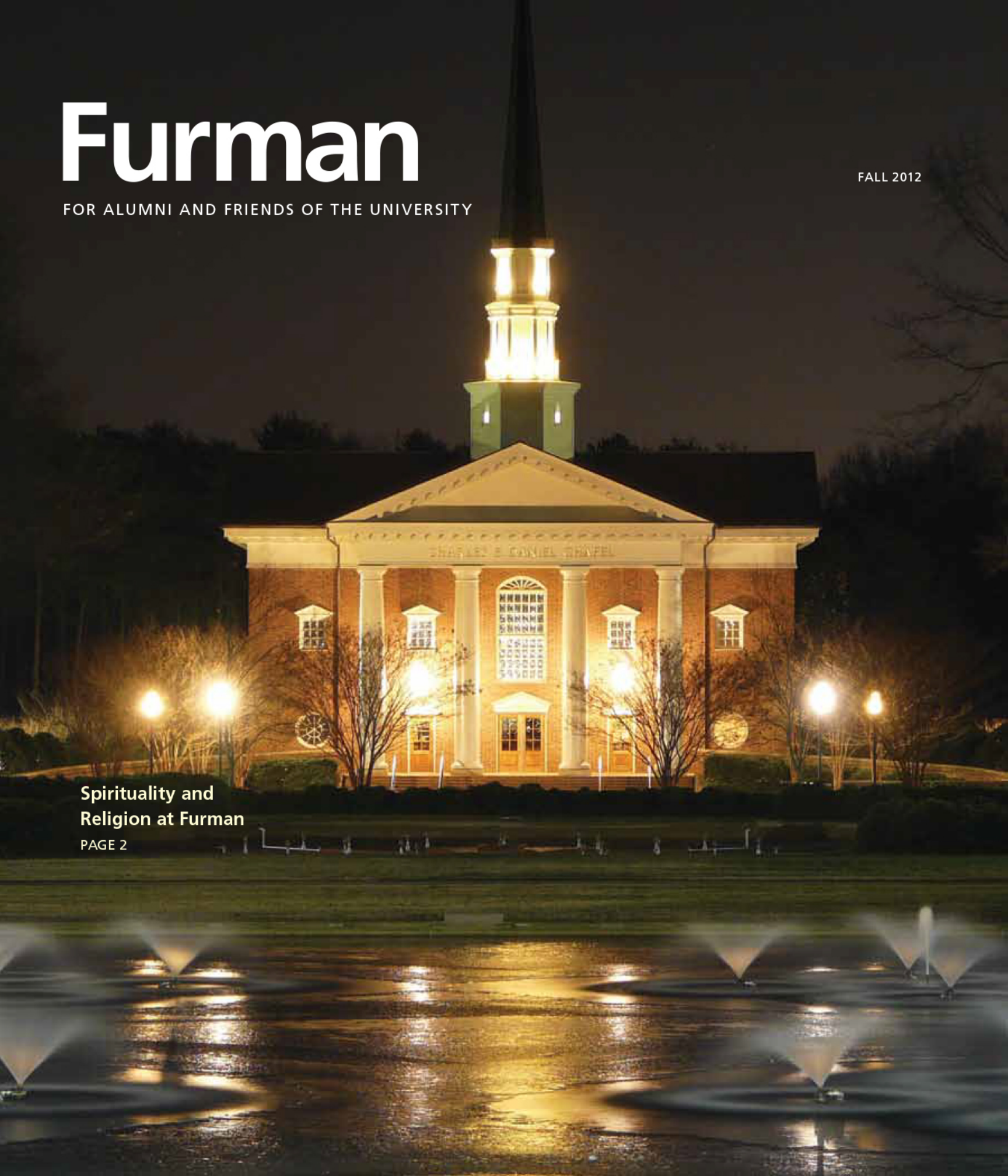
Furman

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

FALL 2012

**Spirituality and
Religion at Furman**

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Furman magazine is published quarterly for alumni and friends by the Office of Marketing and Public Relations, Furman University, Greenville, S.C. 29613.

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Cover photo by Jonathan Britt

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

"We are a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being. We make room for as wide a variety of beliefs and creeds as the spiritual needs of man deem necessary. We sponsor an attitude on the part of government that shows no partiality to any one group and that lets each flourish according to the zeal of its adherents and the appeal of its dogma."

HOW DO THOSE WORDS, uttered by the Supreme Court in 1952 to describe the place of faith within the American constitutional democracy, apply to Furman, an independent private liberal arts university no longer affiliated with any one faith tradition, in 2012? I believe that the Supreme Court's elegant words provide a durable roadmap for the twin principles that should guide the role of spirituality at Furman.

Our first guiding principle is religious liberty. We embrace pluralism and diversity. We make room for as wide a variety of beliefs and creeds as the spiritual needs of our community may require.

Our second guiding principle is the encouragement of lives of moral and spiritual depth. We are not agnostic. In our foundational documents and in our ongoing programs, we encourage connection to forces and causes larger than ourselves.

Furman's Character and Values Statement, one of the university's most basic expressions of its core values, articulates these connections in two ways. The statement calls, openly and without apology, for our students to use the knowledge they acquire for the betterment of humankind:

The university recognizes its responsibility both inside and outside the classroom to encourage students to confront the problems of contemporary society and to exercise moral judgment in the use of knowledge. To this end, Furman fosters in its students a sense of social justice and encourages them to exercise their civic responsibility in creating a fair and equitable order. Students are educated to solve human problems rather than to use their knowledge as a means of gaining further advantage over those who are disadvantaged.

The statement then calls, again openly and without apology, for our students to explore lives of moral and spiritual resonance:

Furman University affirms the worth of both the life of learning and the life of faith and integrity. The occasion of receiving a university degree should become a genuine commencement for graduates to continue their education, to engage in moral reflection, and to deepen their civic involvement "with a sacred regard to the interests of morality and religion."

These are not mere high-toned words. They reflect what we actually do at Furman. Our commitment to engaged learning requires students to translate theory and values into actual hands-on experiences, such as research opportunities, internships, civic engagement, public service and study away. Yet such engagement is incomplete unless it touches the "whole person," encouraging exploration of the moral and spiritual dimensions of a student's life.

In my Baccalaureate address last spring, and in my address at the Opening Convocation that began this academic year, I invoked these values. At convocation I called for all students to ask the questions posed by the Lilly Center for Vocational Reflection: Who am I —most authentically? What do I believe — most deeply? What does the world need — from me?

I reflected with our students on the effect two books from my own college years had on me. William James' *The Varieties of Religious Experience*, published in 1907, taught me the sense of beauty, exhilaration, curiosity and connection that might come from a genuine and authentic effort to accentuate not the points of ideological and theological division over which the peoples of the world are so often sorely and tragically and violently divided, but rather those common experiences — quests for identity and purpose and meaning and peace — that are so universally shared. Robert Penn Warren's novel *All the King's Men* taught me the importance of asking the great questions, not the petty ones, and being ever vigilant against becoming all and only the things we want, and nothing more.

My hope for Furman students is that they too will be touched by their college experience in such profound ways, at once broadening their minds and nourishing their spirits.

— ROD SMOLLA

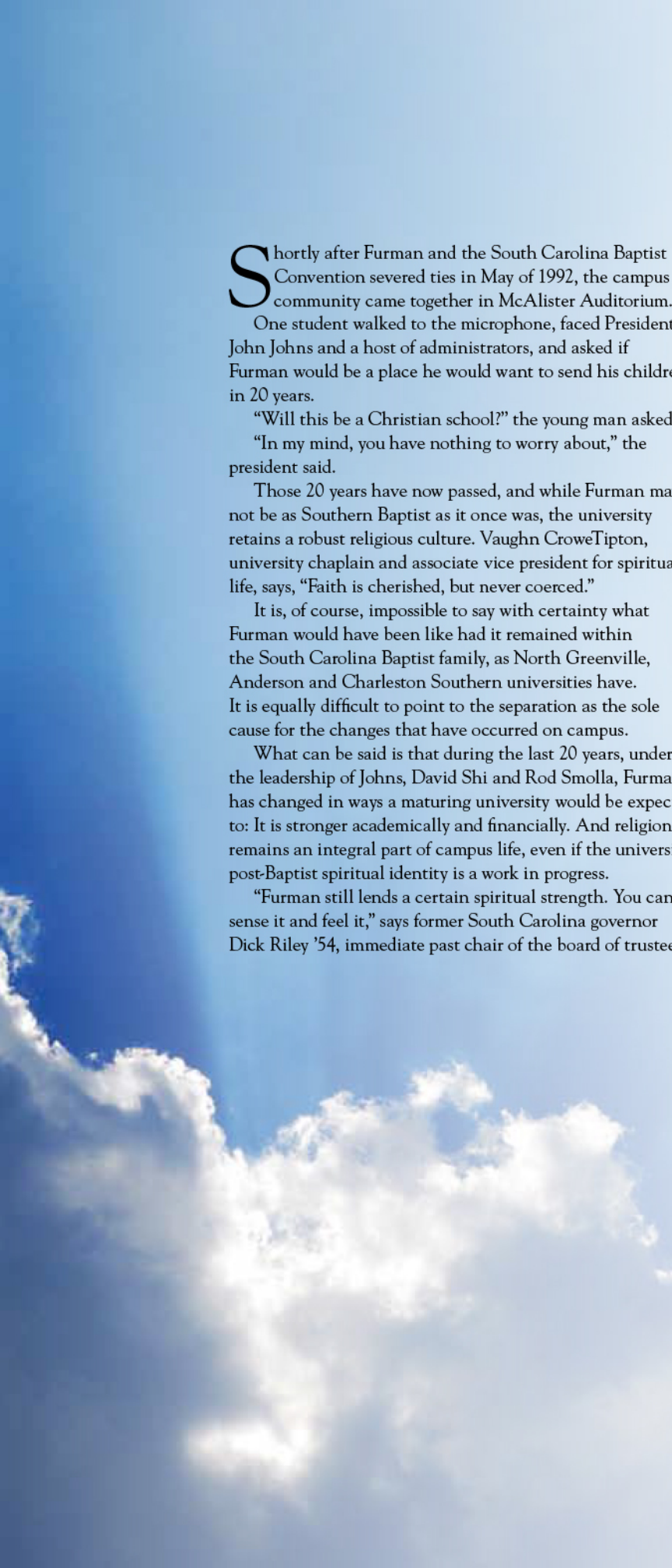
Heritage, Faith & Furman

By Lyn Riddle

A look at the spiritual state of the university, 20 years after the separation from the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

When the Furman University board of trustees voted in October 1990 to amend the university's charter and make the board self-perpetuating, it acted to preserve the university's academic integrity and the educational ideals upon which Furman was founded. . . . Our trustees acted to make sure that Furman remains the kind of school that was envisioned by its founders. When the South Carolina Baptist Convention established Furman in 1826, it did not hold a narrow view of education but stated in its constitution that education should be based on the "principles of Christian liberality and in favor of the rights of private judgment."

— John E. Johns in *The Greenville News*, February 9, 1992



Shortly after Furman and the South Carolina Baptist Convention severed ties in May of 1992, the campus community came together in McAlister Auditorium.

One student walked to the microphone, faced President John Johns and a host of administrators, and asked if Furman would be a place he would want to send his children in 20 years.

“Will this be a Christian school?” the young man asked.

“In my mind, you have nothing to worry about,” the president said.

Those 20 years have now passed, and while Furman may not be as Southern Baptist as it once was, the university retains a robust religious culture. Vaughn CroweTipton, university chaplain and associate vice president for spiritual life, says, “Faith is cherished, but never coerced.”

It is, of course, impossible to say with certainty what Furman would have been like had it remained within the South Carolina Baptist family, as North Greenville, Anderson and Charleston Southern universities have. It is equally difficult to point to the separation as the sole cause for the changes that have occurred on campus.

What can be said is that during the last 20 years, under the leadership of Johns, David Shi and Rod Smolla, Furman has changed in ways a maturing university would be expected to: It is stronger academically and financially. And religion remains an integral part of campus life, even if the university’s post-Baptist spiritual identity is a work in progress.

“Furman still lends a certain spiritual strength. You can sense it and feel it,” says former South Carolina governor Dick Riley ’54, immediate past chair of the board of trustees.

President Smolla says, “I hope that Furman challenges our students to experience a rigorous life of the mind and a reflective life of the spirit. Furman must embrace the ideals of religious freedom upon which our nation was founded, welcoming people of all faiths or no faith.

“Yet the ideals of religious freedom do not require us to adhere to a sterile secular agnosticism. As president I encourage our students to explore the mysteries of life, of being, of meaning. There will be students who have no interest in these profound questions. There are others, however, who will take up the challenge to ask who they are, what they most deeply believe, and how they may serve. I believe Furman should encourage and support them in that journey of the spirit.”

To help them on their journey, the 2012-13 catalog lists 58 courses in the religion department — and a host of other courses categorized under the rubric “Ultimate Questions” — that examine various aspects of morality, spirituality and religion. Twenty-one religious organizations operate on campus.

The Religion-in-Life series, which dates to the 1960s, offers lectures and performances with faith-based themes. The L.D. Johnson Lectures, named for the university’s chaplain from 1967-81, have since 1982 featured faculty members and graduates speaking about “What Really Matters.” Newer programs, such as the Charles H. Townes Lecture Series in Faith and Reason and the World Religions Symposium, provide additional outlets for the campus and community to engage in serious discussions about spiritual topics.

Founded in 2001, the Lilly Center for Vocational Reflection, while not overtly religious, sponsors activities that invite students, faculty and alumni to think about what roles they are called to play in the world. And each year since 2000, the university has presented the Richard Furman Baptist Heritage Award to a graduate who, in the tradition of the university’s namesake, reflects Furman’s founding ideals by thinking critically, making life-changing commitments and living compassionately.



WILL LUCAS

Shifts in trajectory?

Historian A.V. Huff, Jr., a Methodist minister who retired as Furman's vice president for academic affairs and dean in 2003, says describing the fabric of the university "is like touching an elephant. Some are touching the tail, some the leg and some the trunk." Each, he says, is a unique — and valid — perspective.

But has Furman continued to travel the same road on which it was founded, as a place of academic freedom and critical thinking grounded in the principles of Christian liberality? Where does it stand spiritually? How has it changed? Perhaps, as Huff says, the answers depend on individual perspectives.

David Bost, a Spanish professor, faculty chair and administrative director of the Lilly Center, says he sees Furman as somewhat adrift religiously. He describes it

as "vaguely religious, vaguely Christian." The university is not a religious institution with a clear denominational tie, he says, nor is it a secular institution.

"We have a chapel, a chaplain, a Religion-in-Life series, prayers at convocation. That identifies us as a school with some kind of religious awareness," says Bost, who has taught at Furman since 1981. And for the vast majority of the faculty, he thinks this is good: "No religious requirement, no religious indoctrination."

One concern of religion professor Helen Lee Turner, who came to Furman in 1983, is that a certain fable has grown up about what life was like on campus before the Baptist split.

Recently she was having lunch with colleagues and told them of meeting a prospective student who was also looking at Bob Jones and Liberty universities, both founded by fundamentalists. She politely told the student Furman was not like those schools. A colleague said, "They must be thinking about Furman before the split."

Her response: "Furman has never been like that." The university, she says, has always taught "a message of Christianity that was not close-minded. Baptist churches produced people like me, who fought for civil rights, progressive ideas."

Elaine Nocks, a retired psychology professor and former director of the Lilly Center, says that during the first years after the separation faculty felt something of a gap in identity. The Lilly Center helped answer some of their questions.

Started with a \$2 million seed grant from the Eli Lilly Foundation, the center offers programs, trips and retreats to encourage students, faculty and alumni to think less in terms of "careers" and more about "vocation," to reflect on their choices and to focus on social action. What are they called to do? What does the world need from them?

"The center is broadly Christian with hospitality toward other religions, including none," Nocks says. Had the university stayed in the Baptist fold, the center would have been less broad in its approach, she says.

As for other changes over the last 20 years, one that certainly would not have taken place were Furman still Baptist is the school's alcohol policy. Since 2003 alcohol has been permitted at private events at designated campus venues,

A.V. Huff says describing the fabric of the university 'is like touching an elephant. Some are touching the tail, some the leg and some the trunk.'
Each, he says, is a valid perspective.

and in 2010 the university approved a policy to allow students of legal age who live in North Village to have alcohol in their rooms. At the same time, enforcement of the rules on under-age drinking has intensified.

Greek life, once a topic of much contention between students and the Baptists, is prospering on campus, and the student body has become increasingly diverse, both racially and geographically.

Among students, over the last three years almost 80 percent list a religious affiliation — about three percent fewer than students of 20 years ago. For the last seven years, CroweTipton says, an average of 13 percent of them have said they are Baptist — compared to 35 percent in 1992-93.

Since 2008, when the university revised its curriculum, students have not been required to take a class in religion (or humanities equivalent). Instead, the university catalog states that they must complete at least one course, which they may select from a variety of disciplines, that considers “ultimate questions” by inviting them “to engage meta-physical, religious and ethical questions in a direct and explicit way.”

The most visible — some might say ironic — change is that Furman now has a chapel, which was completed four years after the separation. The Charles Ezra Daniel Chapel serves as the base for many campus programs that examine the spiritual and the sacred.

The split

Huff says Furman’s history can be categorized in three ages: its founding in 1826, its move from downtown Greenville to northern Greenville County in the late 1950s, and its split from the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

After fundamentalist leaders came to power in the Southern Baptist Convention in 1979, they started systematically making changes in the denomination’s seminaries, most notably requiring that professors espouse and teach the inerrancy of the Bible. At a meeting in 1980, convention president

Adrian Rogers said, “If we tell them to teach that pickles have souls, then they must teach that pickles have souls!”

Furman leaders took notice. Their concerns were heightened after the fundamentalists turned their attention to the state conventions — and undergraduate institutions. Wake Forest University left the North Carolina Baptist Convention in 1986, and around the same time Stetson (Florida), Richmond (Virginia) and Baylor (Texas) made efforts to distance themselves from their state groups. Furman administrators looked into the issue of separation, but they believed at the time that the school’s charter precluded it.

When the South Carolina Baptist Convention began placing fundamentalists on Furman’s board of trustees, however, university officials saw a potential threat to academic freedom. An alumni group brought together lawyers who researched state law and discovered a legal way out.

In October 1990, Furman trustees voted 18-6, with one abstention, in favor of breaking ties with the Baptists. It was an emotional meeting during which Johns pointed out that Baptists had already endured years of denominational strife.

“Furman has one choice,” he said. “To remove herself as a point of conflict so that her longtime mission of education can continue to be fulfilled, unhindered by politics.”

It took another 18 months, thousands of dollars and threats by some convention members to sue the school, but in May 1992 the convention voted to let Furman go — and to withdraw all financial support.

Former chaplain Jim Pitts described himself as grieved that Furman would not get the \$3 million designated for the university that the convention held in escrow during the dispute. But as he and Johns were leaving the hall after the vote that day, Pitts remembers Johns saying, “What’s that for the price of freedom? That’s nothing.”

Some worried that the loss of funding from the convention would hurt Furman. Instead, over the last 20 years the university has substantially strengthened its financial base, completed two capital campaigns (and is winding down a third), and boosted the market value of its endowment from \$98 million in 1992 to \$572 million at the close of the 2011-12 academic year.

Religious affiliations of student body

	2012-13	1992-93
Baptist	15.1%	35.3%
Presbyterian	14.5%	13.7%
Methodist	12.1%	15.0%
Roman Catholic	17.4%	10.7%
Other Protestant	12.5%	
Episcopal	7.6%	6.0%
Lutheran	3.1%	3.2%
Other	5.5%	16.1%
None	12.2%	

* Furman's Office of Institutional Assessment and Research reports that for 2012-13, 14.6 percent of students did not respond to the question. Information for 1992-93 is based on the method for aggregating data employed at that time.

JONATHAN ANDERSEN

During the same period Furman has benefited from two major individual bequests. When Homozel Mickel Daniel (widow of businessman Charles E. Daniel, whose Daniel Construction Co. built much of the campus) died in 1992 shortly after the separation, she left Furman her home, White Oaks, which is now the residence for Furman presidents. In addition, she bequeathed money to build the chapel, endow professorships and support other programs.

In late 2000, Furman was the beneficiary of a bequest from John D. Hollingsworth, a reclusive Greenville inventor who built a textile machinery company worth millions. His estate established Hollingsworth Funds Inc., which awards 45 percent of its annual profits to Furman.

In addition, the makeup of the university's board of trustees has changed since the break. Once composed of Baptist ministers and laypeople (all from South Carolina), it now consists of mostly business-minded men and women from all over the country, representing a variety of faiths. Financial advisors, chairs of companies, lawyers, entrepreneurs, educators — all have brought important skills to the task, says Dick Riley.

The board deals with budgets and raising funds and needs members of accomplishment from various walks of life, he says. They are mindful of the school's religious heritage, and begin every meeting with prayer.

Growth in diversity

Under the presidencies of David Shi, who succeeded Johns in 1994, and Rod Smolla, who arrived in 2010, Furman has made diversity a major goal. In 2012, minorities make up nearly 16 percent of the student body, compared to six percent in 1992. Twenty-nine percent of students come from outside the Southeast, compared to 16 percent in 1992.

"You cannot have a strong education without having relationships with cultures that are different," Riley says.

As for the religious culture, two Baptist groups operate on campus: the Cooperative Student Fellowship, which is affiliated with the moderate Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of South Carolina, and Baptist Collegiate Ministry, which has ties to the state convention. Other major denominations also continue to maintain active campus organizations.

Among ecumenical student groups formed since the break is Mere Christianity Forum, which promotes critical exploration of the Christian faith, sponsors a wide range of programs and lectures, and supports student internships. It has its own house near campus where students live and experience "Christian community."

There are Muslim and Hindu organizations as well, and some years there has been a Buddhist group. It is common for students to be involved in more than one group, CroweTipton says.

Alana Wasserman joined the Office of the Chaplain in August as Furman's first campus rabbi, working with the approximately 20 members of the Jewish Student Association. One of her goals is for the association to become part of Hillel, a national Jewish student organization on 500 campuses. This would expand programming opportunities, put students in touch with others across the country, and allow them to take part in Birthright, which provides free trips to Israel for Jewish young adults.

Professor Helen Lee Turner says Furman has always taught 'a message of Christianity that was not close-minded. Baptist churches produced people who fought for civil rights, progressive ideas.'

"For kids going off to college, this is the first time to explore their religion on their own, and for me to help with that is a really special gift," Wasserman says.

CroweTipton, who holds advanced degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Baylor, says one of his long-term goals is to establish a center at Furman that would help bring interfaith programming to the Greenville community. Along that line, he sees an increasingly ecumenical tilt among students that embraces social needs, from AIDS to homelessness. He says that many leave Furman and travel to Haiti, South America or other outposts, searching for a place to put faith into action.

An ongoing mission

Religion professor Bryan Bibb '94, a student when the separation occurred, returned to teach at Furman in 2000. He says that what has endured on campus is a great sense of academic freedom and critical inquiry: "We keep the things we value. We are a mutually supportive kind of people."

He also believes that even the most conservative Baptists are proud of what Furman has accomplished as a school with a growing national reputation.

Helen Lee Turner thinks it is hard to separate the recent changes on campus from the social and economic climate of this century. Has the number of religion majors dropped because there is no longer a requirement to take a religion class, or because students are looking for more marketable degrees? She's not sure what the answer is.

She does think, though, that the break with the Baptists had to be made for Furman to continue to be a respected educational institution. Remaining Baptist, she says, would have affected not only the religion department but all academic departments, from the sciences to the arts.

She recalls that, before the split, she heard that students had reported her to the South Carolina Baptist Convention for teaching something other than the subordination of women in the church. John Johns never mentioned the incident to her. He was a fierce protector of academic freedom, she says.

"I see no choice about what happened," she says, "but it made me sad at the same time."

Faculty chair Bost agrees that the split was unfortunate but necessary. "Not to disparage faculty hired before then — I was one of them — but Furman has been able to attract higher quality faculty, not just because of the separation but also because of the administration," he says.

CroweTipton says, "This has allowed us to open our perspective on what it means to be an educational institution."

John Johns retired two years after the separation and died in 2007 at age 85. In his obituary in the *Baptist Courier*, the newspaper of the state convention, his leadership through the separation was mentioned second in his list of accomplishments. His dogged determination to protect academic integrity — the mission envisioned by the founders — moved him and the trustees to take a bold step into an unknown world 20 years ago.

So back to the question the student voiced in 1992 in McAlister Auditorium: Would he, the trustees, and Johns himself recognize the Furman of 2012? A comment from Turner provides an answer.

"We [ended] the relationship not to deny religious heritage, but to maintain it," she says. "We've remained a good academic institution, and we engage in religious questions in a free and open manner."

An award-winning journalist and author of four books, Lyn Riddle has been an adjunct professor of journalism at Furman since 2007. She is a staff writer with The Greenville News.



**ROAD
CLOSED**



Out of Sight, Out of Mind

A Furman sociology professor and his students bring attention to a case of 'engineered isolation' and its impact on a Greenville neighborhood.

By Leigh Gauthier Savage

The Hampton Avenue Bridge came down September 24, stripped to bare steel after standing for 84 years.

Even as it slipped into disrepair, the decaying structure had provided a convenient path for residents of Greenville's Southernside neighborhood to other communities and to downtown Greenville, and served as the best way for those without a car to reach jobs, visit friends and complete errands. While local leaders try to determine how to go forward, working on the issue has allowed a group of Furman students to see firsthand how transportation decisions affect people, and has allowed them to help shine the spotlight on an increasingly ignored area of Greenville.

Ken Kolb, a sociology professor at Furman since 2008, first encountered the bridge while looking for a route to bike to campus from his home in the North Main Street area. "I saw on a map that this bridge existed, but I couldn't get Google Maps to plot a route over it, and I wasn't sure why," he says. He drove over to investigate and found the Southernside neighborhood — and a bridge with a chain-link barrier that had blocked vehicular traffic for 15 years.

Upon further investigation, he found that six points of entry to the Southernside neighborhood had been turned into dead ends over the last 15 years. Most of the access points were closed off when the Pete Hollis Highway was built to accommodate traffic from the Berea area, near Furman, to downtown. Although the highway did help traffic flow, it effectively walled off Southernside residents' access to and from the rest of Greenville.

"This neighborhood is this hidden pocket that no one can see," says Kolb. "It's a good example of how a social problem can be invisible."

Kolb's students had been clamoring for a practical, hands-on sociology experience, and he realized that he could shape the Southernside story into a May Experience course in public sociology that would allow students to learn, get involved and, ideally, generate interest in the plight of the community's residents.

Sociology major Eric Eaton '13 says he jumped at the chance to take the course, originally because he wanted to work with Kolb but also because "the public sociology aspect interests me. It takes what you learned in the classroom and applies it to real-life scenarios."

Through interviewing members of the community and conducting research, he concluded that the destruction of the bridge "is an example of bad transportation policy affecting real people. This is not one particular incident, but a pattern that more often than not affects communities of a lower economic level."

Health sciences major Susannah Kelly '14 also took the course, and says attending community meetings about the bridge was "eye-opening. Hearing [residents] talk passionately about issues relevant to their neighborhood, such as needing a safe bridge for easier access to schools, jobs or family members, and to help decrease crime in the surrounding area, gave a purpose for the class research."



RICK MCOMBER/HISTORICBRIDGES.ORG

A 'perfect storm for invisibility'

Kolb says many residents of the community, as well as the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), Greenville County Council members and other decision-makers, agree that a new pedestrian bridge would be ideal. SCDOT commissioner John Edwards, the Greenville district representative, has said his agency is pushing to replace the bridge but isn't sure how it will be funded. The cost has been estimated at between \$650,000 and \$825,000.

Although the Hampton Avenue Bridge was blocked to cars and, at least officially, to pedestrians for the last 15 years, community residents continued, despite its deteriorating condition, to cross it on foot because it offered the quickest and most convenient route to jobs and other locations. With the bridge removed, the only remaining route out of the neighborhood is a 1.1 mile detour over the Pete Hollis Bridge, which is on a busy highway that many view as unsafe for pedestrians. "What once took less than a minute to walk now takes a little over 20 minutes," says Kolb.

Kolb's class conducted research and interviews with people in the immediate vicinity of the bridge. Eighty-eight percent expressed a reason why they needed the bridge. Of those who wanted it removed, most wanted it replaced immediately.

The students also analyzed census statistics and found that countywide, 6.3 percent of the population lack access to a car, but in the Southernside neighborhood, 25 percent have no car. Countywide, 7.1 percent of people travel to work on foot or by bus. In Southernside, that number is 33 percent. "This is an area that walks, and not just for recreation and fun," Kolb says.

He and his students created a video that shows why the neighborhood's transportation needs have been neglected. "Part of the reason is engineered isolation," Kolb says. "The neighborhood is sealed off from other neighborhoods in the area, so few outsiders travel through it. Out of sight and out of mind."

With traffic engineered to flow elsewhere, growth in the area has slowed and population numbers have declined. Vacancy rates are now 37 percent in the neighborhood, and the population has dropped almost 29 percent in the past 20 years. "So you have these sealed-off communities without political and economic capital, which drives down housing values, which forces more abandoned housing and fewer people to argue for help," Kolb says. "It's the perfect storm for invisibility."

Rene Blanton, who has lived in the area most of her life and is vice president of the neighborhood association, has watched the dwindling fortunes for the residents on the isolated side of the Hampton Avenue Bridge. "For years it would have holes, be closed for repairs, and then would open back up," she says of the truss bridge that was built in 1928. Fifteen years ago, it was shut down completely. "We always hoped it would be repaired," Blanton says.

She and neighborhood association president Mary Duckett worked for years with state, city and county officials to find out who owned the bridge. "No one wanted to take ownership," Blanton says. Just last year, stakeholders realized Norfolk Southern, a transportation company that owns the railroad beneath the bridge, also owned the bridge. More recently the bridge was deeded to SCDOT, which found that it was not structurally sound and should be torn down.

Search for a solution

Blanton has been glad to see Kolb and his research team tackle an issue that has lingered for so long. "If it wasn't for Professor Kolb, I don't think we would have gotten the media attention we have gotten," she says. "His research gives us some data on the impact on the community, and that made the news media interested and got our residents more interested. Had we gotten the media coverage a long time ago, maybe the bridge wouldn't have been in such poor condition."

Chandra Dillard, who represents the area in the state House of Representatives and is director of community relations at Furman, became aware of the importance of the bridge and the plight of the neighborhood about three years ago. While she and others have been looking for solutions, she says research and increased public awareness help add a sense of urgency for decision-makers.

"It put a light on how isolated this community has become, and the impact of isolation," she says. "It has sparked compassion and public interest." Before Kolb's research, she was not aware that the neighborhood had already been cut off in so many different ways.

Even as the bridge was being torn down in September, Dillard was working the phones and emailing stakeholders, trying to get a stay of execution. A second engineering opinion had determined that the steel base of the structure was sound and that, if it were left in place, building a replacement pedestrian bridge would be cheaper and quicker. "Once it's down, it's down, and we don't want this forgotten," she says.

The next step is to find a local entity — the city or the county — to accept ownership and maintenance of a replacement bridge. Dillard says if Norfolk Southern can approve it, SCDOT can build it and then hand it over to the city or county.

While Kolb was glad to do the research and give his students real-world experience, he is frustrated that a solution hasn't been found. "We did get [media] coverage, but no positive result," he says. "They still tore down the bridge. But awareness is a good thing, and the people in the community had their voices heard."

Eaton, who plans to go to law school after graduation, thinks the students' work made a difference, pointing out that after they showed their video to some County Council members and to the SCDOT, the local media produced stories about the bridge and the neighborhood. He adds, "The DOT did a cost-benefit analysis of tearing down the bridge and rebuilding it, as our video suggested. I think our project had a direct, tangible result."

The public awareness raised by the study forced the SCDOT to give the bridge some serious thought, Dillard says, and she's glad to see Furman using its assets to help the local community.

Kolb plans to continue using his work to shed light on people's problems. "I have a dual purpose," he says. "I want to make general theoretical arguments and contribute to academic knowledge, but I also want the people I study to benefit from what I do. Without them, I don't have a job. All of my research relies on their data, and I have a moral and ethical obligation to serve their interest."

Blanton, the local resident, is just hoping the pedestrian bridge comes to fruition soon. "Then people will reinvest in the community, and maybe there will be more housing and more business on that side," she says. "The community could get cleaned up. Right now it's dead, and the bridge is the key to getting some revitalization." [F]

The author, a 1994 Furman graduate, is a freelance writer based in Simpsonville, S.C. To see the video produced by Kolb's class, visit "Disconnection: The Hampton Avenue Bridge" on YouTube.



JEREMY FLEMING

Ken Kolb first encountered the Southernside neighborhood while looking for a bike route to campus.

HOW AVERETT WENT TO COLLEGE

Neither natural disasters
nor financial straits could keep
Charles Averett Rollins from
his dream of higher education.
Here's the almost century-old tale
of how he made it to Furman.



COURTESY DEBBIE SCHMIDT

WHEN, AT THE AGE OF 15½, I completed the 10th grade in Johnsonville, S.C., I was told there were too few pupils to continue the 11th grade the next year, so the 10th and 11th grades had their graduation exercises together.

Though I lacked some of the necessary credits, I wanted very much to go to college. My only hope was to stand the competitive examinations. The superintendent of education informed me that no scholarships were open at The Citadel or Clemson, but that I could take the entrance exam for the University of South Carolina.

Having studied my sister's 11th grade books, I set out on the shaky venture. On the day before the scheduled exam, I arrived in Kingstree, the county seat, and went to the home of family friends. That night the rains came, in torrents, and continued for several days, until much of the flat country was flooded. Bridges washed out, and everything was at a standstill. The exam was called off because no one could get to the courthouse.

Now, my problem was to find a way home. No trains were running, and any other transportation was out of the question.

Finally, after about two weeks I heard that a train on the Atlantic Coast Line was leaving Charleston and would go as far as possible. I went to the depot and waited. With a ticket to Florence, 40 miles away, I boarded the train. I thought of relatives I had in Florence, in case I could get no further.

Fortunately, on the train I met a former teacher. He suggested that I stay on as far as Dillon, where I might be able to take the Seaboard and get closer to home. I managed to stammer out that my money was exhausted. He offered me a loan, which I gladly accepted (and later repaid).

On the Seaboard I managed to get to a little junction called Poston. There was still the Great Pee Dee River and swamp to cross. With fear and doubts about how and when this could be done, I got off the train. Thoughts of the "Swamp Fox" (Revolutionary War hero Francis Marion) came to mind — how he spent years living in this swamp, coming out frequently to fight the British. But that was small consolation.

Before long I saw two men loading a motorboat with bags.

I recognized one as our postmaster. He asked how I expected to get home and said if I'd help load the bags, he'd give me a lift as far as possible. After a hazardous trip through the swamp and across the swollen, rushing river, we made it home.

MY FIRST EFFORT to take a college entrance exam so completely wiped out, I settled down to more study while awaiting a second chance. When finally it came, I did the best I could. I passed, but the scholarship went to someone else. I was the alternate.

My father tried to console me by saying that I was very young for college, anyway. Maybe next year things would be better. And after the flood, the farmers to whom he had extended credit would be unable to pay, so there would have been little financial help from him.

When my mother saw my long face, she asked, "Are you going to let all this bad luck stop you?" I knew she had something in mind.

I discovered later that she'd contacted Furman, where her brother had graduated and my father had spent a year. At last, good news came! I was accepted at Furman and allowed to be one week late.

With the endorsement of a doctor (a cousin), I borrowed \$100 from the bank. By this time my relatives in Florence had heard of my longing to go to college, and they showered me with a trunk of necessities. I had two new suits with long pants — my first long pants.

On the appointed day I set out on the complex trip to Greenville. At Poston I had to change trains for Florence. At Florence I barely had time to cross town and board the Atlantic Coast Line for Columbia. In Columbia I made another change to the Southern Railroad, and the last leg of my journey.

In Greenville I was let off at College Place while my trunk went on to the main station. By this time it was dark, but the lights from the dorm glared at me. I heard much laughing and talking, and I recalled tales of what upperclassmen sometimes did to freshmen. No! A late freshman! I couldn't! I walked away and went to a hotel for the night.

By Charles Averett Rollins



The Rollins family's Furman connections extend to Averett's great-grandsons, Evan Schmidt '14 (left) and Cameron Schmidt '12.

AT 7:30 THE NEXT MORNING I was back. Everything seemed peaceful and quiet. I saw a boy at the bell tower and asked him where the president's home was. Straightway I went to Dr. Edwin McNeill Poteat's home.

His daughter answered, and when her father came to the door I told him my name and said, "I believe you've had a telegram from my mother that I'd arrive today."

"Oh yes," he replied. "Have a seat until I finish breakfast."

Gingerly, I sat down in the first chair I saw. Soon, Dr. Poteat told me to accompany him to the registrar's office. I wasn't sure what the registrar was but managed to say, "If that's the man who takes the money, I really don't have much."

"I understand," he said. "Just give him what you have. We'll get this worked out."

After filling out a card, I plunked down my \$50. My schedule was arranged and my first morning went very well.

At lunch I was told by the matron, Mrs. Long, to sit at her table, since I had yet to be assigned one. Suddenly I heard a loud voice say, "Mr. Rollins will ask the blessing!" With a weak and trembling voice, I started. The students must have thought I was taking too long, for with several "Amens" around the table, everybody sat down.

After lunch I was assigned to a room with a boy several years my senior and twice my size. I found him lying across the bed, crying. He said he was homesick. He lived in Taylors — 10 miles away. I thought of the 200 miles that separated me from home and wondered if I'd make it.

After dark I went to the edge of campus to retrieve my valise. I had dropped it in a culvert that morning, feeling I would be less conspicuous as a latecomer without my little bag. My trunk was delivered the next day, and at last I was in college.

Four years passed — years filled with wonderful experiences, hard work, and very happy times. In 1920, at the age of 20, I received my degree in mathematics. I left Furman with memories of truly great professors, beautiful friendships, and undying devotion to a great institution. [F]

Charles Averett Rollins went on to a successful business career with Protective Life Insurance in Birmingham, Ala., retiring as a vice president. He died in 1977. This story was transcribed from his notes by his wife and submitted by his granddaughter, Debbie Schmidt, mother of his great-grandchildren, Cameron Schmidt '12 and Evan Schmidt '14.

THE 'NATURAL LADIESMAN' & THE FLOODS OF 1916



PHOTO COURTESY NOAA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (STEVE NICKLAS, NOSINGS)

A CYCLONE that caused severe flooding in the South Atlantic states in July of 1916 was evidently the event that Charles Averett Rollins alludes to in describing the start of his adventurous route to college.

According to *The Floods of 1916: How the Southern Organization Met an Emergency*, published in 1917 by Southern Railway, a cyclone approached the coast of South Carolina on July 14 and caused heavy rains to hit Charleston and areas to the north, "especially in the line of counties along the right bank of the Great Pee Dee River . . . Chesterfield, Darlington, Florence, and Williamsburg." Johnsonville, Rollins' home, was in Florence County. The book reports that the rains did not abate until July 16.

The previous week, a similar storm had hit the Mississippi coast and moved inland and eastward, eventually passing through western North Carolina and on to the South Carolina coast. This storm, according to the book, had "served to saturate the soil and to keep the streams at moderately high stages and thus to prepare the way for serious floods as soon as the downpour of the second storm" began.



The combination of the two storms apparently caused untold problems for the Carolinas, including northeastern South Carolina. But they were not enough to dissuade Averett Rollins from his dogged pursuit of his college education.

After finally arriving at Furman, Rollins went on to earn his degree in mathematics, head the Adelpian Literary Society and compile, from all available information, an exemplary record. Here's how the *Bonhomie* paid tribute to Rollins in 1920, his senior year: "Bull Bat" started on his journey in the great city of

Hemmingway on November 5, 1900. He attended the graded school at Exelton, S.C., until he finished the eighth grade. Then, moving to Johnsonville, he resumed his studies in the high school of that city. Graduating from Johnsonville with honors, he entered Furman in the fall of 1916. Rollins is a natural ladiesman, and is always well posted on the art of flirting. But he has a serious turn as well. He is very fond of Math, being one of the four taking this Senior subject.

On leaving Furman he carries with him the best wishes of the entire class."

— JIM STEWART

Rumor Has It . . .

A curious graduate takes it upon herself to investigate four tales that have become part of campus lore — and determine what's fact and what's fiction.

Your birthday begins innocently enough. You roll out of bed and walk to the dining hall for breakfast. But after enjoying a bowl of cereal, you suddenly feel a strange sense of foreboding.

And with good reason. Out of nowhere, a large group approaches and crowds around you. They grab you and head out the door. Kicking and screaming, you realize where you'll end up: in the Furman lake.

Splash! Geese and ducks and swans scurry as you struggle to regain your equilibrium in the murky water. You finally gather yourself and slosh back to shore, feet sinking into the soft, brown sludge.

Once you've overcome the thrill (or indignity) of being the latest victim of this grand Furman tradition — and you realize that, unlike some unfortunate past victims, you haven't suffered a broken ankle or other major injury — you settle down and reflect on what a fun experience it was.

Until a friend stops by wearing a surgeon's mask

and asks if you've gone to the infirmary for your round of antibiotics and Sucrerts.

"Why would I need that?" you innocently inquire.

"Well," the friend says, "you don't want to get the lake flu, do you?"

Lake flu? Is there really such a thing?

Or is it just a Furman myth?

The lake flu is just one topic I've heard discussed during my years as a Furman student and employee. But what about some of the other tales floating around campus? Like, what's the truth behind how the black swans came to live here? Does the grounds crew really sneak around in the middle of the night and paint the grass green? And what's the deal with Furman teams being known as the Christian Knights?

Tired of not knowing, I decided to uncover the stories behind the stories. Herewith are the findings from my semi-exhaustive investigations.

By Melanie Krone Armstrong

Illustrations by Tim Foley



Don't Go in the Water

Pretty much everyone knows that the lake was open for swimming in the early years of the new campus. As best I can determine, no person who actually waded in the waters ever developed any lasting, lake-related medical disorders.

But at some point — evidence points to the early '80s, though no specific date could be found — swimming was banned because of poor water quality. Wind surfing was allowed for a while, and the crew team practiced on the lake into the '90s, but technically, no swimming.

And if you take a plunge in the lake today, you might very well get sick.

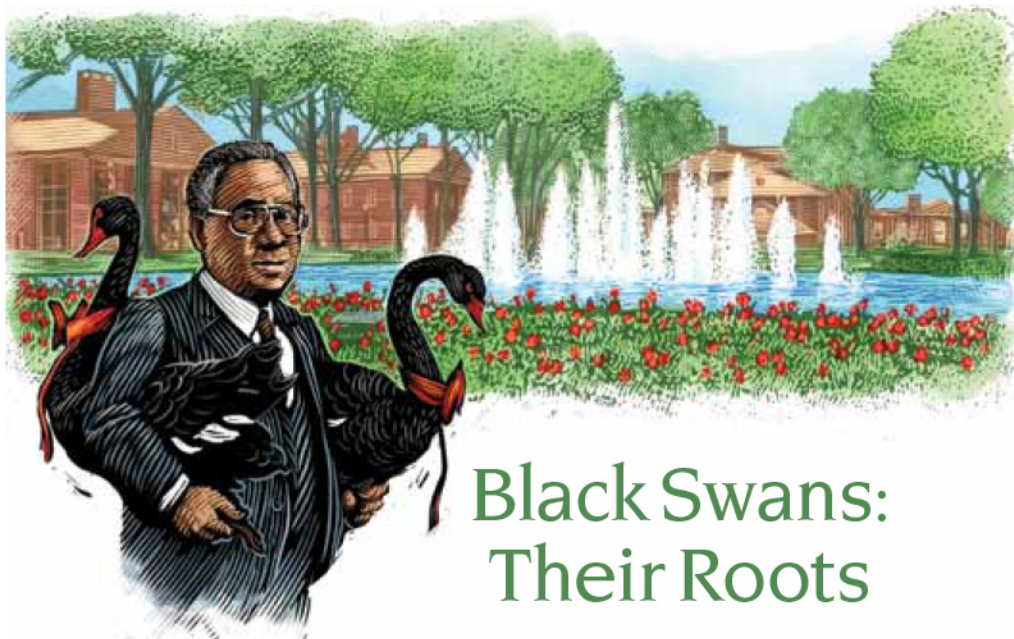
In 2005 a senior described in these very pages her most embarrassing Furman experience: "My freshman year I was thrown in the lake on my birthday and came out with a sickness that lasted for a week and then was passed around my hall. It might have been a coincidence, but if you've been in the lake recently. . . ."

It was no coincidence. Through the years the lake has developed high levels of *E. coli*, which can lead to infections both internal and external. *E. coli* is chloroform bacteria found, among other places, in the feces of waterfowl, of which Furman has plenty.

Wade Worthen, professor of biology, has monitored *E. coli* levels in the lake since 2006. Periodically, he says, the levels spike to as much as 50 times greater than the Environmental Protection Agency's upper limit for recreational swimming. Worthen does say he has seen a slight reduction in the bacteria levels as the number of Canada geese, longtime campus pests, has decreased. But that number tends to fluctuate with the sporadic geese invasions.

Will the lake ever be swimmable again? It's possible. Worthen, chair of the Lake Restoration Task Force, says steps have been taken to improve the water quality. Wildflowers and other flora have been planted to absorb the nutrients and runoff of fertilizer and feces from around the lake. And Furman now discourages the feeding of the waterfowl so that visiting birds will migrate rather than stick around, because when the bird population grows, the level of bacteria in the lake rises.

So what should students — or alumni — do if thrown in the lake? Worthen's advice: "Get out and take a good hot shower. And don't drink the water — try to keep your mouth shut."



Black Swans: Their Roots

Black swans are majestic creatures, but how much are they worth? Is it true they cost almost as much as a year's tuition at Furman? And were Furman's black swans a gift from a famous author?

According to Sheree Wright, senior groundskeeper, the swans aren't pricey. A pair of Australian black swans may be purchased for \$750. White swans cost about the same.

Wright adds that the cost of caring for Furman's swans is provided by donations from alumni and parents. "Without alumni donations for the care of our swans, we would have to put them down when they become sick or wounded," she says.

According to Wright, black swans are extremely social and prefer to exist in flocks. In contrast, white swans are highly territorial — so much so that Wright says she's found it's best to have only two of them (one of each sex) co-existing on the lake at one time.

Currently Furman has only one black swan, and its name is not Natalie Portman. It's Isabelle. Her longtime mate, Thomas, died last fall, the victim of an attack by a snapping turtle.

As for how Furman first acquired its black swans, the tale oft repeated is that they were a gift from Alex Haley, author of *Roots*. One story is that Haley donated the swans after speaking on campus in the late '70s. We could find no report in Furman media from that time of a Haley sighting, but if the January 24, 1986 issue of *The Paladin* can be believed, here's how the swan story may have started:

A political science professor, Saundra Ardrey, had at some point invited Haley to speak at Furman, but had never received a response. One day in early January, however, Haley and a friend were passing through Greenville on their way to Savannah, Ga., when they decided, for whatever reason, to stop by Furman. Jim Pitts, university chaplain, alerted Ardrey to Haley's presence at the lake, where he was admiring the black swans. Ardrey wound up taking Haley to dinner.

Afterward Haley and Co. returned to Furman, where the Student League for Black Culture Gospel Choir was singing in the student center. He wound up staying a while, joining in on "Amazing Grace" and giving an impromptu talk that left some students in tears.

Normally, *The Paladin* reported, a formal lecture by Haley would have cost \$7,000. Since Haley had expressed interest in the black swans, Furman president John Johns agreed to give him a pair as thanks for his visit. (At the time, according to another *Paladin* article, Furman had four black swans.)

Since the swans were already here in '86, it is likely Furman first acquired them in the early '80s. *The Paladin* provides some help again; in its issue dated October 5, 1984, it reported that a new pair of black swans had arrived as replacements for the solo black swan then living on the lake. Because black swans mate for life, it was felt it would be better to have a couple than for the single swan to continue its lonely existence. (Ah, poor Isabelle.) Furman agreed to swap several white swans for the black ones. An outside party purchased the loner black swan for \$200.

Wearin' of the Green

Part of Furman's mystique and appeal is the luscious green grass throughout campus. But why does the grass seem to look extra green during special events?

The campus myth is that the grounds crew spray-paints the grass. David Manning, grounds superintendent, says he has heard this story many times — and states unequivocally that it is false.

"It's a yearlong planning process of anticipating events and knowing when we want the grass to have the most color. Our biggest times are Homecoming [mid-fall], graduation [spring], Family Weekend [early fall] and the Scottish Games [late spring]," says Manning.

Furman has a team of former golf course superintendents who take soil samples and maintain a "feeding" schedule to keep the grass at its peak during certain times of the year. "When people drive into Furman and see the beautiful campus, we hope we've made a difference in getting students to come to school here," says Manning.

In the past, he says, Furman did mix a blue dye into its fertilizer to mark areas that had already been sprayed. To cut costs, this dye was eliminated. Today Manning says nothing of color is sprayed on the grass.

So if anyone asks, just tell them that the color is real — and it's spectacular.





Paladins and Christian Knights

Among the newest and strangest Furman myths is a story that, as best could be determined, began floating around among prospective students and their families: that the university's teams were (or are) known as the Christian Knights — thus giving Furman University an unfortunate acronym.

Laura Brown Simmons '84, Atlanta regional representative for Admission, says, "I get asked about some variation of the Christian Knights about once a year. Sometimes they ask if we used to be Christian Knights. Sometimes they ask if a Paladin is a Christian knight. Some 16-year-old boy at a college fair will dare some other 16-year-old boy to ask me. I usually tell him that not only

is it not true, but maybe I'll tell his counselor he asked me.

"I figure it came from some crazy chat room or something else online where unsupervised children spread such nonsense."

Granted, Furman teams have not always been the Paladins. According to Hunter Reid, long-time director of sports information, before 1961 Furman's baseball team was the "Hornets," the football team the "Hurricanes" and the basketball team the "Paladins." In 1961 — the same year the women's and men's campuses were united — the student body voted to adopt one nickname, and Paladins took the prize.

While paladins were (are) good and noble,

they apparently have no religious affiliation.

Francis W. Bonner, a longtime vice president and provost of the university, indicated as much in an article titled "What Is a Paladin?" in the Summer 1992 *Furman Magazine*. Bonner quoted Webster's *Third New International Dictionary*, which defined a paladin as "a champion of a medieval prince; a legendary hero; a person of outstanding worth or quality who is firm in support of some cause or objective."

Furman used to be Baptist. Its motto is still "For Christ and Learning." We probably even sang "Onward Christian Soldiers" at some point. But we've never been Christian Knights. If you doubt it, snopes.com will confirm.



So what have we learned from these investigations?

Basically, when you walk around Furman's beautiful campus, you should not be tempted to take a swim in the lake. Instead, plant yourself on the shore on some succulent, legitimately green grass and say hello to Isabelle, the reasonably priced Australian black swan who was not a gift from Alex Haley. When you stand up to leave, don't worry; your pants won't be covered in paint. So head over to Paladin Stadium and admire the statue of the valorous man on a horse, without fretting that he is associated with anything naughty. **[F]**

The author, a 1994 graduate — which, by definition, makes her a person of outstanding worth — works with the Office of Constituent Relations and Alumni Programs. Email melanie.armstrong@furman.edu if you have a Furman tale you would like investigated. She hastens to point out that she is not infallible, so if you have information that clarifies or debunks any stories mentioned here, she welcomes your input.

Planned gift offers opportunity to impact others' lives

I REMEMBER WELL how my college search went in the early 1980s.

My parents and I left our home in Columbus, Ohio, and began our tour with universities in the North. My reaction: too cold. We visited schools in the Northeast — too pretentious. We headed South, stopping first at Duke — too big.

Then we arrived at Furman. A family friend who taught there had convinced us to take a look.

I fell in love immediately. I applied Early Admission, and much to the dismay of my parents, didn't have a backup plan. I had no doubt that Furman was where I was meant to be.

Furman provided an environment that was simultaneously protective and liberating. I was a political science major, and while the department

was my family, all my professors made me feel at home. I traveled to Howard University in Washington, D.C., with political scientist Don Gordon — and learned that I had leadership potential. I went to dinners at history professor Bill Leverette's home in the mountains, where we discussed both history and life. I still have the spaghetti recipe English professor Judy Bainbridge gave me.

A speech class at Furman taught me that I had a gift for instruction, and an education class directed my career path away from law school and into both social work and teaching. I have spent the past 28 years as an educator and a clinical social worker. I am currently a high school principal and love every minute (almost) of it.

My husband and I have no children and are both only children. As we began the process of estate planning, we had lengthy conversations about the legacies we wanted to leave. My main thought was to contribute to the institution that fundamentally altered and shaped my life.

It is my hope that my planned gift will impact many lives by providing scholarship opportunities to students who may not otherwise have the financial capacity to consider Furman. I am proud that I am a Furman graduate and that I have the ability to give back.

— JACKIE NELSON JACOBSON

The author, a 1985 graduate, lives in Peoria, Ariz. Reprinted from the 2012 issue of The Advisor, produced by the Office of Planned Giving.



Case study for Furman United: Shannon Riley

WHAT WOULD YOU DO if your family could no longer afford to send you to the college of your choice?

For some Furman students, this scenario is a harsh reality, leading to uncomfortable conversations, dashed hopes and uncertain futures. When it happened to Shannon Simpson Riley '94 (pictured), she saw only one solution — to return to her home in Alabama and enroll in a state school.

At the time, Riley says, she was just thankful for the opportunity to remain in school. But the day she walked into a classroom with 300 students, she realized immediately that she had to find a way back to Furman. “I decided to go back, and knew it would have to be on my dime,” she says.

To pay her way through Furman, Riley, a chemistry major, worked three part-time jobs on top of a full course load. She found her niche in the chemistry department under the tutelage of Tony Arrington.

Thanks to her dedication and natural aptitude, Riley was able to join Arrington and other students at New Mexico’s Los Alamos National Laboratory (home of the Manhattan Project) for a summer of research. The students experimented with environmental clean-up tactics, learning ways to dispose of nuclear waste. The experience was life-changing, says Riley, and eventually led to her decision to develop her own environmental protection and disaster clean-up company, One Stop Environmental, LLC, which she runs in Birmingham.

According to *Business Alabama* magazine, the company, which she started in 1999, employs 70 people. Its efforts extend across the country, ranging from hazardous waste removal and mold, lead and asbestos abatement to environmental consulting. She told the magazine, “We continue to expand geographically and to add service lines, but you have to maintain that focus on quality to ensure you don’t lose business as you add new clients.”

As a woman in a fork-lifting, messy world of oil spills and natural disasters, Riley has to be tough. She attributes her tenacity in part to the trials she faced — and overcame — by working her way through Furman.

When Arrington heard about Riley’s company — recently named the 487th fastest growing, privately held company in the nation on the INC 500 list and the fifth fastest growing inner city (HubZone) business in the nation (ICIC 100) — he said, “That would be Shannon. She always had her own ideas on how to be successful.”

Although she sacrificed a social life at Furman to fund her education, Riley is quick to express appreciation for the support of faculty like Arrington, and for other opportunities afforded her through her relationships with professors. But she acknowledges that she missed out on much of college life. “I spent Friday nights getting ready to go to work while my friends were getting ready for dinner,” she says.

The frustration associated with that memory was part of the reason she recently pledged \$10,000 to the Furman United program, which for the last several years has helped students facing financial hardships complete their Furman educations. Last year Furman United donors provided assistance to more than 100 students.

Fiona Hay '12 understands the value of Furman United. After her father lost his small business, Hay faced loans and debt — and the possibility of not being able to return to Furman. She applied for and received Furman United funding, but soon thereafter her father was diagnosed with a fast-acting form of brain cancer.

He died just three months later.

Despite these setbacks, Furman United helped ensure that Hay would graduate with a Furman degree. Visit www.furman-united.com to see her story.

For students facing unforeseen obstacles, Furman United offers an answer. The Class



of 2012 included 47 recipients of Furman United funding, totaling \$132,874. The Class of 2013 has decided to designate its Senior Gift to the university to support the fund.

“There are many things I could not be now if it had not been for my Furman education and the professors that took interest in me,” Riley says. Through her generous donation to Furman United, more students will graduate with the same thought in mind.

— KATE HOFER DABBS

The author, a 2009 graduate, is Web communications coordinator at Furman.



Herring Center provides a new home for growing programs

DEDICATION CEREMONIES for the Herring Center for Continuing Education were held October 18. Located on the Duncan Chapel Road end of campus between Timmons Arena and Younts Conference Center, the building is named for Gordon '65 and Sarah Weaver '66 Herring (lower right), who provided the naming gift. It offers classrooms and working and display space for the university's Continuing Education programs: Bridges to a Brighter Future (for at-risk teens), Osher Lifelong

Learning Program (senior adults), Learning for You (enrichment for all ages), Center for Professional Development (business executives) and Undergraduate Evening Studies (working adults). Among those honored with named areas in the building are emeriti professors and administrators John Crabtree, A.V. Huff, Don Lineback and Bing Vick, and former division staff members Judith Babb Chandler-Huse '66, Jack Dickey, Sarah Fletcher and the late Shirley Mangels.

Continuing Ed
by the numbers

1,200	23,000	\$6,400,000	290	1,500
OLLI members	Square feet in Herring Center	Total cost of building	Adults pursuing degrees at night	Learning for You participants

Commentary: Quotes and observations from Furman programs and personalities

"The faculty support I received [at Furman] through my research and through the classes I took prepared me beyond measure. They took the time to meet outside of class and invest in me. I even breezed through some of my early classes at vet school because I was so prepared."

— BRITT CARR '08. AT VIRGINIA TECH SHE RECEIVED THE OUTSTANDING SENIOR AWARD FOR THE VIRGINIA-MARYLAND REGIONAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE WHEN SHE GRADUATED IN MAY. SHE IS NOW COMPLETING AN INTERNSHIP IN LOS ANGELES.

"Discourse is not about winning. Discourse is about recognizing that we are all travelers on the same road, even if we fail to agree on where that road is going or where we are on it. Discourse is about getting somewhere, arriving at constructive compromises, having conversations, opening ourselves to other people in the good faith that they will open up to us."

— JACOB ZIMMERMAN '14, *PALADIN* OPINIONS EDITOR, IN AN AUGUST 24 EDITORIAL.

"As much as you hate it when everyone tells you you're going to change after you have kids, you have another set of priorities. When you lose, your kids don't care. They just run up to you. Our kids, thank goodness, are really flexible. They just go with the flow. I think they like the chaos a little bit."

— MICHELLE YOUNG, FURMAN VOLLEYBALL COACH AND MOTHER OF THREE, ON HOW SHE AND HER HUSBAND WILL, A HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACH, BALANCE THEIR BUSY SCHEDULES.



"Our partisanship has gone beyond the usual give and take. Compromise seems to be a dirty word in American politics . . . Before cable and Internet, we were a mass audience sharing a common experience. Now there are few mass events in our lives anymore. We live in a world of niches. While there's so much more information, there's also less cohesion."

— JEFFREY BROWN, CO-ANCHOR AND SENIOR CORRESPONDENT OF "PBS NEWSHOUR," IN A CAMPUS TALK ON "THE PUBLIC VOICE IN A DIVIDED AMERICA."

"Jews, Christians, and Muslims do certainly have different beliefs on many particular issues of theology, but are united in their understanding that God is a God of love, compassionate and merciful, and not a God of hatred and murder."

— RELIGION PROFESSOR ALFONS TEIPEN, IN A *GREENVILLE NEWS* EDITORIAL ON THE YOUTUBE VIDEO THAT SET OFF DEMONSTRATIONS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE MIDDLE EAST IN SEPTEMBER.

"I feel like my passion and my purpose is beyond just soccer. I feel I can use soccer as a platform to reach a lot of people, and I feel like I've been given an ability to communicate with younger students and help them realize their passion and purpose in life."

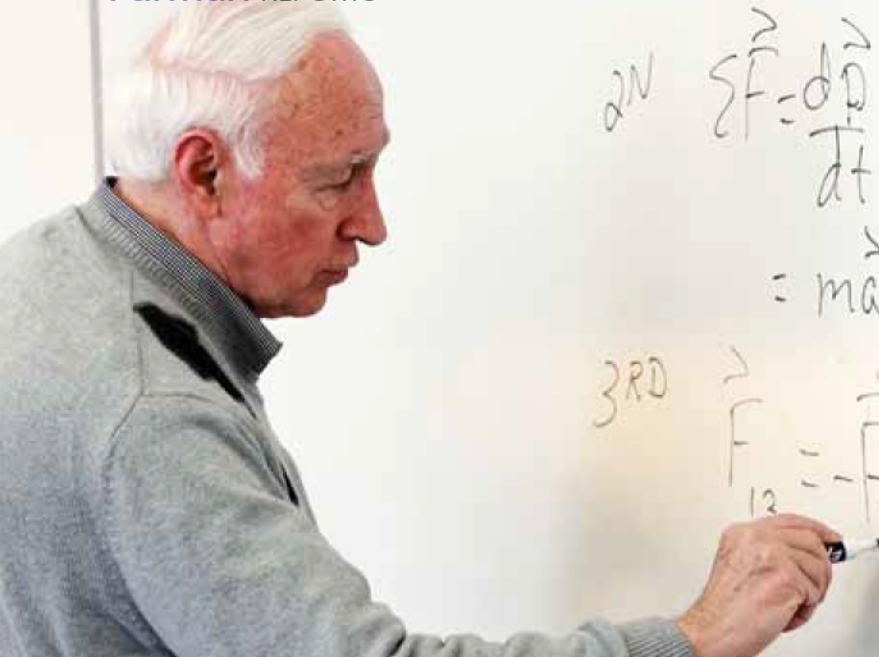
— WALKER ZIMMERMAN '14, MEMBER OF THE U.S. UNDER 20 SOCCER TEAM, IN THE *GREENVILLE NEWS*. HE HOPES FOR A CAREER IN MOTIVATIONAL AND PUBLIC SPEAKING.

"The only details I worry about are the ones I haven't thought of. Those are the scary ones."

— BOB MILLER, DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY POLICE AT FURMAN SINCE 1978, WHO IS RETIRING AT THE END OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR.

"I want students to have a better understanding of what cancer really is, what really causes it, and to be able to better relate to people with the disease. Making science more accessible is a hurdle we have to cross a lot of times."

— RENEE CHOSOD, BIOLOGY PROFESSOR, ON HER FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR TITLED "BIOLOGY, CANCER AND BEYOND."



JEREMY FLEMING

A few minutes with Bill Brantley

The physics professor, 2012 recipient of the Alester G. Furman, Jr., and Janie Earle Furman Award for Meritorious Teaching, is in his 47th year on the faculty.

Education: Mercer University (undergraduate); Vanderbilt University (graduate).

Major: Physics

Arrived at Furman: 1966

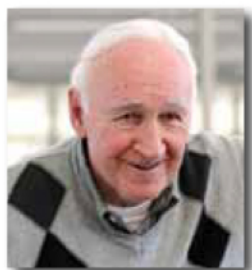
Worth noting: He received the George B. Pegram Award for excellence in teaching from the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society in 2005.

Talk about your recent roller skating adventure.

You can use it to demonstrate concepts — every action has an equal and opposite reaction, conservation of momentum, things like that. In this case I hadn't skated in a while, and I did wonder what would happen if I were to fall. Turned out it was a self-fulfilling prophecy. Someone was videotaping it, so I told them if I fell to keep shooting. Well, I hit something on the floor and wound up sprawled down a ramp. It turned into a teachable moment — a lesson in deceleration, the work/kinetic energy theorem. And I'm still here.

What were the science facilities like when you started at Furman?

When I came to interview, the middle part of Plyler Hall was all that existed. Ray and Lib Nanney (former computer science professor and his wife) showed me the 25-foot deep hole that marked the start of the rest of the building. By the time I began work on July 15, 1966, everyone was moving into the completed new quarters. Now, with the Townes Center, I've been in on the ground floor of two new facilities, and I'm working on my third.



What's the current state of physics at Furman?

I've noticed an increase of interest in physics in recent years. Physics students are not afraid to tackle hard problems, and they have high-end math tools. Twenty years ago, the typical pre-med student was a biology or chemistry major. Now you see more physics majors interested in practicing medicine, and medical schools interested in them. Physics students can apply their skills in many growing areas — biophysics, biomechanics, engineering, radiation physics/oncology, nanotechnology.

What sparked your interest in physics?

I was raised on a college campus — my father was president of Virginia Intermont. You could sometimes find physics professors, I remember one was Miss Clark, hanging around late in the day. They would take my buddies and me into the lab and show us experiments, such as how to measure the velocity of sound with a Kundt's Tube. I found it fascinating. With experiences like that, I never knew I wasn't going into physics.

Have students changed much since 1966?

The students that come our way have always been capable in math and science, so that hasn't changed. Part of what has changed is their 'sticktoitiveness' in terms of study. They also have more distractions now, more to occupy their time. And our typical student these days is quite savvy with technology. If I get stuck on something, I'll just grab a student.

Excerpt from a letter nominating Brantley for the award:

"Professor Brantley frequently notes that physics is both difficult to learn and to teach. With this in mind he is readily available to provide extra help for his students. . . . [He] is at his best in responding to students with rather severe learning challenges. He spends a great deal of personal time with each of them. The phrase 'tireless effort' really does apply to him. I am convinced that through his efforts, many students have successfully completed the science requirement at Furman, and consequently graduated, that might otherwise not have done so."

Grant supports science scholarships

THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION has awarded Furman a five-year, \$600,000 grant to provide merit-based scholarships to students who demonstrate financial need and wish to pursue degrees in science-based fields.

Beginning this fall, biology and chemistry majors entering Furman are eligible to receive financial aid awards of up to \$40,000 as part of the program funded by the foundation's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics arm. The Science Opportunities, Activities and Resources (SOAR) Scholars initiative will provide critical support for students for whom the cost of attendance at Furman would be a hardship.

The program aims to enhance science opportunities for students from South Carolina racial and ethnic groups traditionally underrepresented in science fields — African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders. Between 15 and 21 students are expected to benefit from the program over the next five years, with Furman contributing funding for the program in the sixth year.

SOAR Scholars will participate in a host of activities, including a one-week, pre-college bridge experience offered immediately before the freshman year, weekly interdisciplinary seminars, opportunities for science-based community outreach through established programs directed at disadvantaged populations, and guaranteed placement into paid summer research experiences on campus. SOAR Scholars also will have access to peer mentoring programs, regular meetings with permanently assigned secondary advisors, on-campus tutoring, and support from the university's Office of Multicultural Affairs.

John Kaup, Furman's coordinator of science education, is the director of Furman's SOAR Scholars program, with assistance from John Wheeler (chemistry), Eli Hestermann (biology) and Marion Martin (chemistry).



JEREMY FLEMING

Aldo the robot makes parents proud

ALDO MAY HAVE KEPT his parents up until 3 a.m. the night before he was scheduled to compete, but in the end he came through with flying colors.

Aldo is a robot, the brainchild of four Furman students who decided they wanted to enter the 2012 Atmel Robotics Contest, held the last weekend of September in New York City. Once his parents diagnosed the cause of his pre-contest crankiness — maybe it was the unfamiliar hotel room or the noise from Big Apple traffic — he went on to take second place in the competition.

Aldo's ability to flex his microcontroller muscles culminated a four-month project by a group of juniors — from left, Kristina Pardo (physics), Andrea Fant (math/education), Evdokiya Kostadinova (physics) and Haris Kahn (physics) — as part of the physics department's Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiative. Professor John Conrad coordinated the students' work.

Contest participants were tasked with designing a robot that could perform a series of acts autonomously. Four balls — two ping pong balls and two golf balls — were lined up randomly on an array of pedestals. According to Conrad, the robot used optical sensors to move to a pedestal, where it picked a ball, determined what kind of ball it was, then made its way along "a somewhat tortuous path" to place the ball in the appropriate receptacle. The process continued until all four balls were retrieved, sorted, transported and delivered.

A representative from Folsom Lake College in California took first prize in the contest.

Visit <http://blogs.furman.edu/physicssteminitiative> to see Aldo in action.

Brewer receives honorary degree

"I HAVE TAKEN MANY BREWER CLASSES while at Furman. The toll on the GPA is well worth it."

It's likely that hundreds of Furman students through the years would echo this comment about Charles Brewer, William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor of Psychology. Renowned for his rigorous standards, classroom brilliance and extensive contributions to the teaching profession, Brewer (top, right), who has taught at Furman since 1967, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree at Opening Convocation August 30.

Also recognized was Harold "Fox" Warlick '67, author, scholar and emeritus dean of the chapel at High Point (N.C.) University. He received the Richard Furman Baptist Heritage Award, which annually recognizes a graduate who reflects Furman's founding ideals by thinking critically, making life-changing commitments and living compassionately.

Class of 2013 members (from left) Ben Saul of Greenwood, S.C., Anna Sheppard of Irmo, S.C., Matthew Correnti of Springfield, Pa., Emily Wirzba of Hillsborough, N.C., and Kory Kraft of Greer, S.C., were named Furman Fellows. The honor, worth \$10,000, goes annually to five seniors who have demonstrated the potential to make a difference in the world through their creativity, imagination and contributions to university life.



JEREMY FLEMING

Five professors appointed to endowed chairs

COMPUTER SCIENCE PROFESSOR TOM ALLEN and four faculty colleagues were named to endowed professorships as the 2012-13 academic year began.

Endowed professorships provide funds to support recipients' scholarly work, travel and other professional activities, while enhancing their ability to secure additional support from foundations and granting agencies. At Furman, gifts from donors and foundations currently endow 24 lifetime professorships and eight rotating, limited-term professorships.

Allen, who holds a Ph.D. degree from the University of Georgia and has taught at Furman since 1987, is the Daniel Distinguished Professor of Computer Science, a lifetime appointment. The chair was held previously by Hayden Porter, who retired at the close of the 2011-12 session.

Eli Hestermann and Jeff Petty received two-year limited-term appointments to Henry Keith and Ellen Hard Townes Professorships in Science. Hestermann, an associate professor of biology, came to Furman in 2003 and holds a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Petty, a professor of chemistry and a 1986 Furman graduate, earned his Ph.D. from the University of California and joined the faculty in 1995.

Kathleen Player was named to the Robert E. Hughes Professorship in Business Administration, and Tami Blumenfield was appointed to the James B. Duke Professorship in Asian Studies, each for three-year terms. Player holds a Ph.D. from Clemson University, and Blumenfield earned her doctorate from the University of Washington. Both joined the faculty this year.



Bookmarks: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty

STEPHEN CROTTS '72, *A Fine Gospel for Preaching* (CSS Publishing, 2011). The publisher says, "One of the enduring legacies of the Revised Common Lectionary is its ability to draw different parts of scripture together to form a coherent narrative. This book covers the last third of the Pentecost season, bringing the church year to a close. In examining various passages from the life and teachings of Jesus, the author reminds his readers not just of the importance of the messages to the original audience, but also of their continued relevance almost 2,000 years later." Crotts, who lives in Hillsborough, N.C., is head of the Carolina Study Center, a campus ministry. Visit <http://carolinastudycenter.com>.

ROBERT WHITLOW '76, *The Choice* (Thomas Nelson, 2012). Novelist Billy Coffey describes this book as a "moving tale of a mother's love for her unborn children cast against the specter of culture wars." The novel is the 12th from Whitlow, an attorney and Christy Award-winning writer from Charlotte, N.C. Abby Brannam-Johnson, formerly of Planned Parenthood, says the book "shows the struggles of unplanned pregnancy and the courageous act of adoption in a way that I haven't read before," and *Booklist* says, "Whitlow captures the struggle of many women trapped in the battle over abortion in a truly sympathetic and affecting way." Visit www.robertwhitlow.com.

DEBBIE WRIGHT ROSZEL '83 and Lisa Browne Joiner, *The Mom's Guide to Surviving West Point* (Light Messages Publishing, 2012). Sending a child to college is never easy; sending one to the United States Military Academy can be downright scary. That's where this book comes in. The co-authors, Georgia

residents and mothers of 2012 West Point graduates, have compiled a guide to help parents understand how best to support and encourage their cadet. Visit www.momsguidetosurviving.com.

VINOD THOURANI '90 and Kenneth L. Franco, *Cardiothoracic Surgery Review* (Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2011). The book covers topics necessary to pass the cardiothoracic boards or the cardiothoracic recertification exam. The publisher says it is ideal for those who need to stay up to date in their fields — surgical nurses, cardiothoracic fellows, practitioners studying for recertification. A companion website features a fully searchable text and more than 60 procedural videos. Both authors are affiliated with Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta.

MICHAEL HIX '98, *An American Organist in Paris: The Letters of Lee Orville Erwin, 1930–1931* (Scarecrow Press, 2012). Hix, a music professor at the University of New Mexico, offers a glimpse into the life of Erwin, who wrote theatre organ music for many silent films. Erwin's time in Paris, where he studied with organist André Marchal and harmony teachers Jean Verd and Nadia Boulanger, greatly shaped his compositional style and aesthetic, and his collected letters reveal his own singular experiences and the common experiences shared by the many American composers who studied in France during the same period.

JOHN A. McARTHUR '02, editor, *Community 2.0: At the Intersection of Digital Media and Information Design* (CreateSpace, 2012). As society becomes more saturated with digital technologies, members in and leaders of all types of

communities will be challenged to incorporate, assess and design digital and media tools and experiences. *Community 2.0* aims to integrate information design squarely into that discussion as a framework for building experiences that can create and shape the communities we serve. McArthur is an assistant professor and director of undergraduate programs in the James L. Knight School of Communication at Queens University of Charlotte, N.C. Visit Jamcarthur.com.

FROM FACULTY

KENNETH ABERNETHY and Stephen K. Wiggins, *Picasso on a Schedule: The Art and Science of Managing IT* (CreateSpace, 2012). In exploring the concepts of information technology management in a business environment, the authors draw from their experiences creating professional development programs to support and enhance the information systems division of BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, where Wiggins is executive vice president and chief information officer. Abernethy is Herman N. Hipp Professor of Computer Science and director of Furman's Institute for the Management of Information Technology.

AKAN MALICI and **ELIZABETH SMITH**, co-editors, *Political Science Research in Practice* (Routledge, 2012). The book is meant to help students appreciate the need for a science of politics and to foster better understanding of research methods. It engages students first with pressing questions, then demonstrates how a researcher has gone about answering the questions by walking through actual political science research studies. The editors' departmental colleagues David Fleming,

James Guth, Kate Kaup and Danielle Vinson made contributions to the book. Malici has taught at Furman since 2005, Smith since 1998.

J. AARON SIMMONS and Stephen Minister, co-editors, *Reexamining Deconstruction and Determinate Religion: Toward a Religion with Religion* (Duquesne University Press, 2012). The book addresses the conventional conflicts between those who desire a more objective, determinate, quasi-evidentialist perspective on faith and religious truth and those who adopt a more poetic, indeterminate, relativistic and radical perspective. Drawing on both continental and analytic philosophy, the book offers a sustained challenge to the prominent paradigm of a "religion without religion," proposed in a deconstructive philosophy of religion. Simmons joined the Furman philosophy faculty in 2011. Minister teaches at Augustana College.

RECOMMENDED

DEB RICHARDSON-MOORE, *The Weight of Mercy: A Novice Pastor on the City Streets* (Monarch Books, 2012). Triune Mercy Center in Greenville is a non-denominational church that serves the homeless, troubled and disadvantaged. The author, the church's pastor, entered the ministry after more than 25 years as an award-winning journalist. Forthright, startling and beautifully written, the book brings into focus the struggles of those often overlooked by society — and of their pastor, whose empathy, determination and tough love help her congregation learn to help themselves. Richardson-Moore is the mother of Dustin Moore '04 and the wife of Vince Moore, Furman's director of news and media relations.

Homecoming highlights



IN ADDITION TO TRADITIONAL VISITS WITH OLD FRIENDS, tailgating on the mall (an especially popular activity this year) and the typical enthusiasm sparked by watching Furman football, the university celebrated another major event on October 20, Homecoming Saturday. Before Furman's match with UNC-Greensboro, the field at Stone Soccer Stadium was named in honor of former soccer standout Graham Seagraves '00 and his wife, former tennis player Jarrell Starnes Seagraves '00, who provided the lead gift

toward the \$1.5 million soccer fieldhouse project. Men's soccer coach Doug Allison and President Rod Smolla helped recognize the Seagraves. Visit <http://alumni.furman.edu/hc> for the full Homecoming slide show. Photos by Jeremy Fleming.

Hard-nosed Henning boasts virtuoso's flair

IN HIS 18 SEASONS as men's soccer coach at Furman, Doug Allison has seen some pretty good players come through his program. There have been 29 All-Americans, seven Southern Conference players of the year, eight Paladins selected in the Major League Soccer draft, and two — Ricardo Clark '05 and Clint Dempsey '05 — who have played with the U.S. National Team in the World Cup.

But to know what the quintessential Furman soccer player is like, look no further than senior midfielder/forward Coleton Henning — especially after a game.

"His sleeves will be rolled up, his jersey dirty and wrinkled, his fists clinched," Allison says of Henning. "He's a blue collar, hard-working player who epitomizes the way we want to play."

But Henning does more than just play hard. Allison says every team has its piano movers and its piano players, but Henning is one of those rare players who can do the heavy lifting and then become a virtuoso when it's time to perform.

"Coleton has great ball skills and a real ability to score," Allison says. "He has had some fantastic goals for us that we are going to remember for a long time."

One of them came in the Paladins' 2-0 victory over Pac-12 member Stanford in September. Henning scored both goals, the first on a 20-yard blast that Allison called "sublime."

"You could see that it shook the Stanford players and coaches to give up that goal," Allison says. "They weren't the same team after that."

The Paladin soccer program has returned to national prominence, and Henning has been a big part of the resurgence. He was named Southern Conference Freshman of the Year in 2008 and Player of the Year in 2011 after leading Furman to a 14-4-4 record and a spot in the NCAA tournament. He was all-conference again this season and tied for the team lead with eight goals as the Paladins compiled a 12-4-3 mark.

But while Allison admires Henning's ability to play the piano, it is his willingness to move it that Allison seems to appreciate most of all. Henning has the ability and flexibility to wait patiently for the action to arrive in his third of the field, but he gladly moves to the midfield when needed and challenges every 50-50 ball as if his life depended on winning it.

"That's the only way I know how to play," Henning says. "That's how I was raised. The harder you work, the more it pays off."

Henning's success may be even more remarkable considering that he suffered his third knee injury just before his junior year in 2010 and had to sit out the season. Allison says it's hard to come back from one knee injury, much less three, and he has seen many players who didn't return at the same level.

"Sometimes they lose a step, and they're afraid to make the same kind of challenge on the ball," Allison says. "But, if anything, Coleton came back stronger, even less afraid. To come back from an injury like that and be the SoCon Player of the Year was quite a feat."



Henning, who is from Shawnee, Kan., is set to graduate in December with a degree in sociology. He would like to play professionally, either in the United States or overseas, but for now he is pleased that the Paladin program is approaching the glory it enjoyed a decade ago, when Clark and Dempsey were wearing the uniform.

"It was a great decision for me to come here," he says. "We are performing well right now on the national scene, and I'm very proud to be a part of that."

— VINCE MOORE

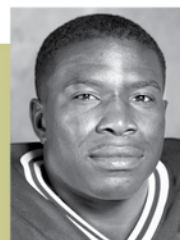
The author is director of news and media relations at Furman.



The record book

With 239 yards in Furman's 45-24 victory over Western Carolina September 29, running back Jerodis Williams '13 racked up the fourth highest single-game rushing total in Furman history. His 89-yard run for a touchdown in the second quarter was the second longest rushing play in school history, falling just short of the 93-yard run by Russ Sutton '54 against Presbyterian in 1951.

What three Furman student athletes have rushed for more yards in one game than Jerodis Williams?



a.
33 carries, 301 yards
vs. Georgia Southern,
2000



b.
18 carries, 261 yards
vs. Presbyterian, 1980



c.
26 carries, 243 yards
vs. South Carolina
State, 1996

CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY — AND OUR LEGACIES

FURMAN VALUES ITS ALUMNI. That fact should not be debatable, at least from the perspective of your humble alumni director.

As an example of how much we appreciate our alumni and want their families to carry on the Furman tradition, the university offers \$10,000 legacy scholarships to the children and grandchildren of alumni. That's \$10,000

per year, or a total of \$40,000 over four years, which is almost a 20 percent discount off Furman's current cost of just over \$52,000.

Furman also now offers five renewable legacy scholarships worth \$25,000 each. These are awarded through a competitive application process.

The 2012–13 academic year is the second in which the university has awarded the \$10,000 legacy scholarships and the first for the \$25,000 scholarships. This year's freshman class, the Class of 2016, has 99 legacies among its 697 members.

The Alumni Office wants to help Furman's admission efforts by improving our database of legacy children so that we can include more of them on our mailing lists early in their high school years. This way we can go to them directly to tell them about the virtues and benefits of a Furman education.

My experience with my children was that the more I advocated on Furman's behalf, the less they wanted to consider it, even though two of them wound up enrolling anyway — and were glad they did. If more information comes directly from Furman, parents and grandparents can more easily (and casually) drop the



subject into everyday conversations. Then the students can decide on their own that Furman is the right fit for them.

Whether or not you have a potential Furman student at home, please remember that you — alumni, parents, friends and current students — are Furman's best recruiters. We encourage you to share the good news about Furman with any young person you know who is looking at colleges.

THROUGH THE YEARS the Alumni Office has enjoyed a wonderful partnership with Furman's Lilly Center for Vocational Reflection. This past summer we co-sponsored the fourth biennial "What's Calling You Now" weekend retreat for alumni. Participants were inspired and challenged to reflect on their careers and vocations with the help of guest speakers John Beckford, vice president for academic affairs and dean; Spanish professor Jeremy Cass '00; Min-Ken Liao of the biology faculty; and Susan Zeiger, director of internships.

Our office and the Lilly Center plan to collaborate on another such retreat in 2014. But for 2013, in keeping with its every-other-year tradition, the Lilly Center is sponsoring two summer alumni pilgrimages. The choices are an international excursion to the Iona Community in Scotland July 25–August 3, or a closer-to-home trip to Chimayó, N.M., scheduled for late May and early June (actual dates still pending).

In 2009 and 2011, the center sponsored pilgrimages to Spain and Ireland, respectively.

The Iona Community describes itself as "a dispersed Christian ecumenical community working for peace and social justice, rebuilding of community and the renewal of worship." Chimayó, which is outside of Santa Fe, is the site of a chapel, *El Santuario de Nuestro Señor*

de Esquipulas, to which thousands travel each year for sanctuary and healing.

Kerry Holder Joffrion '87, an Episcopal priest, and Zara Renander, her partner in the Huntsville, Ala., company Turning Point Consultants, will lead the programs. Both have been involved in previous pilgrimages.

Leslie Smith '91, president-elect of the Alumni Board, traveled to Ireland in 2011 and describes the trip as "an amazing, life-shaping experience. 'Thanks be to God' was our group's battle cry as we followed the ancient trails of pilgrims seeking guidance from St. Patrick, St. Brendan and St. Brigid. The camaraderie, scenery, hospitality, history and people we encountered made our instruction that 'Pilgrims do not complain' a gratifying mantra. I can't wait to share Scotland in 2013 with my Furman family."

Becky Hood Becherer '89 participated in the first two pilgrimages. After the Ireland trip, she wrote an article for this magazine in which she said, "A pilgrimage enables your mind and body to seemingly disconnect and find a new and entirely different association . . . In no other type of travel have I experienced the opportunity to focus on, discover and fulfill such a deeply personal spiritual covenant."

Visit <http://furmanlilly.com> for reservation information and trip costs.

— TOM TRIPLITT

The author, a 1976 graduate, is executive director of constituent relations and alumni programs at Furman.

CLASS NOTES, FALL 2012

41

William M. Broadwell, Jr., of Calhoun Falls, S.C., was among the veterans who traveled to Washington, D.C., May 23 on a World War II Veterans Honor Flight.

53

C. Dayton Riddle, Jr., a longtime Greenville physician, has been honored by the Clemson/Greenville Hospital System Patewood Campus with the establishment of a lecture series named for him. The series features national academic scholars in the fields of orthopedics and bioengineering who have made significant contributions to the profession.

69

Vernon Burton, professor of history at Clemson University and director of the Clemson Cyberinstitute, recently completed his term as president of the Southern Historical Association and has been elected to the Society of American Historians. Vernon also serves on the Furman Alumni Association Board of Directors.

74

Bob Farnsworth's company Hummingbird Productions, a Nashville, Tenn.-based music production company, produced a 30-second composition for a Coca-Cola commercial aired during the 2012 Summer Olympics. Bob co-wrote the music. The company supplies original music for assorted media, from film and Web videos to documentaries. Learn more at www.hummingbirdproductions.com.

77

Thomas E. Reynolds, an attorney with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, in Birmingham, Ala., has been selected by his peers for inclusion in the 2013 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. He was recognized in the litigation-bankruptcy category.

78

NEXT REUNION IN 2013

Phillip Hare has joined the Augusta, Ga., campus of Troy University as a recruiter. He works with business and industry leaders in the central Savannah River area to recruit their employees for undergraduate and graduate programs.

80

Randy Todd, founding chair of the classics department at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., received the university's John H. Buchanan Award for Excellence in Classroom Teaching during the school's 2012 opening convocation. The award includes a silver tray and a \$1,000 prize. Finalists are nominated by members of the previous year's graduating class. Randy joined the Samford faculty in 1997.

81

Teresa Hunt Granger has been asked to be a year-two curriculum writer for the ecumenical "Growing in Grace" children's choir curriculum, a publication of the "Celebrating Grace" Family of Worship and Music Resources. She lives in Athens, Ga., where she teaches music at Rocky Branch Elementary School and coordinates the children's choirs at First Baptist Church.

82

Jeffrey Baxter, choral administrator for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra since 2001, has been named to the Florence Kopleff Choral Administrator Chair. The chair is named for a noted contralto who died in July. Jeff is also the organization's foreign language diction coach and musical assistant to Norman Mackenzie, director of choruses.

83

NEXT REUNION IN 2013

Chris Peabody has been named chief operating officer for Executive Mosaic, a Fairfax County, Va.-based leader in senior executive programs and media for the

government contracting sector. He most recently served as chief operating officer for Allied Telecom Group, a telecommunications services provider.

86

Michele Piper Ferrara of Boca Raton, Fla., a certified public accountant with Morrison, Brown, Argiz & Farra, LLC, has been promoted to principal with the firm. Her civic work includes service with the Boca Raton Estate Planning Council, the Boca Raton Tax Institute and the city's financial advisory board.

88

NEXT REUNION IN 2013

Tim Black has been called as associate rector for youth and young adults at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Atlanta. Ordained to the priesthood in 2010, he previously served at Church of the Incarnation in Atlanta and at Holy Innocents' School and Church in Sandy Springs, Ga.

90

Attorneys **Richard A. Coughlin** and **J. Tod Hyche** of the Smith Moore Leatherwood firm have been selected by their peers for inclusion in the 2013 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*. Richard, who practices in the Greensboro, N.C., office, was recognized in the areas of commercial litigation and personal injury litigation (defendants). Tod is with the firm's Greenville office and was recognized in the categories of tax law, trusts and estates. The publication also named Tod a "Lawyer of the Year" in his area.

91

Page Anderson is an associate professor of psychology and neuroscience at Georgia State University in Atlanta, where she is also director of clinical training and chair of the clinical psychology doctoral program. She has appeared on the Discovery Channel and CNN to discuss her research on the treatment of anxiety disorders.

Elisabeth Davis Baldwin recently accepted a position with the financial management firm Raymond James/Morgan Keegan in Gainesville, Ga.

Clarinetist **Kenneth Ellison** of Highland Park, N.J., and his group, trio@play, have produced a children's CD called "Willie Was Different," based on a story by Norman Rockwell. Visit www.trioatplay.com. The group was scheduled to release another CD in September titled "In the Sandbox." Ken is on the master faculty at Westminster Conservatory and is artist-in-residence at the Joshua Tree School.

92

Goffinet McLaren of Pawleys Island, S.C., is one of three founders of the Chirping Bird Society, which supports organizations and individuals working to bring awareness to the problem of plastic pollution of the world's oceans. Visit www.chirpingbirdsociety.org.

Chris White of Greenville and his wife, Emily, are founders of Paris MTN Scout, an Internet-based film distribution company that specializes in artistically ambitious, micro-budget feature films by emerging writer/directors. Visit parismtnscout.com or <http://chriswhitehq.com>.

BIRTH: Scott and **Laird Whitmire Green**, a daughter, Sarah Lillian, September 27, 2011, Greenville.

93

NEXT REUNION IN 2013

BIRTH: Ben and **Jamie Moon Merrill**, a son, Reid Douglas, July 24, Charleston, S.C.

94

Doug Campbell (M.A. '00), a mathematics teacher in Columbus, N.C., and author of the book *Discipline Without Anger*, which offers teachers assistance in maintaining control of their classrooms, has developed a website dedicated to the topic. Visit www.withoutanger.com.

2012-13 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. Chris Brown '89, president; Leslie L. Smith '91, president-elect; Rebecca Ann Armacost '89, vice president; Clare Folio Morris '83, past president; N. Staten Bitting, Jr. '75; Marilyn Mayfield Blackwell '65; Sidney R. Bland '59; Tracy Hulsey Bond '90; Kevin R. Bryant '85; William M. Burtless '84; O. Vernon Burton '69; Mamie Susan Caffey '81; Michael L. Guynn '91; Jimmie E. Harley '58; Charles D. Hardy '89; Gregory W. Haselden '94; Shannon Scruby Henderson '75; Gail Laible Hughes '83; Gwinn Earle Kneeland '89; C. Todd Malo '95; Thomas A. Marshall '77; James N. Martin '79; Herman A. Matherson, Jr. '79; Andrew C. Medlyn '97; Matthew A. Miller '99; William P. Morrow, Jr. '54; Emmett L. Patrick '56; Scott W. Raeber '92; Kenneth A. Sargent '62; Gordon D. Seay '61; E. Leon Smith '61; George O. Short '54; T. David Tribble '76.

Ex-Officio and Other Members: Rod Smolla, president; Mike Gatchell '91, vice president for development; Tom Triplitt '76, executive director of alumni programs and constituent relations; Tina Hayes Ballew '78, associate director of alumni programs; Leo Fackler '03, associate director of alumni programs; Cal Hurst '04, president, Young Alumni Council; Kaitlin Parham '13, president, Student Alumni Council; David Hathaway '13, president, Student Government Association; Stephen Tagert '13, president, Senior Class.

97

Jeffrey M. Anderson has joined Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP as counsel in the firm's Birmingham, Ala., office. He most recently served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Appellate Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Alabama.

98

NEXT REUNION IN 2013

Valerie Horsley, Maxine F. Singer '57 Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology at Yale University in New Haven, Conn., is one of two recipients of the 2013 Rosalind Franklin Young Investigator Awards funded by the Gruber Foundation and administered by the Genetics Society of America and the American Society of Human Genetics. The \$75,000 award, administered over three years, recognizes Valerie's work on cellular and molecular mechanisms that control stem cell activity and function within epithelia, the tissues that line internal organs

and outer surfaces. The Franklin Award is presented every three years and was established to support and inspire the next generation of women in genetics.

Sherrie Jeffries is a second grade teacher in Spartanburg, S.C., District 7 Schools. She has been named 2012-13 Teacher of the Year for her school.

Michael Oubre now teaches at Pickens (Ga.) High School where he is head band director and head of the fine arts department. He also serves as Georgia Music Educators Association District 9 Band Chair and membership liaison for the National Band Association.

BIRTH: Patrick and **Kimberly Pavlik Clark**, a daughter, Katelyn Grace, July 10, Orlando, Fla.

99

Cameron Runyan, a financial advisor in Columbia, S.C., was elected to the City Council in April.

BIRTHS: Stephen and **Jaime Albert Campbell**, a daughter, Lydia Elaine, July 17. They live in Mount Pleasant, S.C. **Mark and Olivia Rowe**, a daughter, Ardsley Elizabeth, June 28, Greenville. **Adam and Christine Hacker '01 Stillwell**, a daughter, Ada Rose, August 20, Greenville.

00

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Frederick, Md., welcomed **J. Carl Gregg** as full-time minister in July. He previously was minister of Broadway Church in Chesapeake Beach, Va.

Mark Horner is pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, Texas.

Graham Wright of Brookline, Mass., is founder of the Opus Affair, a networking group for young professionals involved in the arts in the Boston area. He is a freelance opera singer with several local companies and also works as an event producer.

MARRIAGE: **Zachary Gibbons**

McElveen and Kylie Jean Jordan, May 14, 2011. They live in Atlanta.

BIRTHS: Brunson and **Emily Barnhill DePass**, a daughter, Beatrice Jane, July 14. They live in Columbia, S.C., and Emily is a fourth grade teacher.

Jeff and **Tracy Towle Humphrey** (M.A. '01), a son, Colton Towle Humphrey, June 4, Miami Beach, Fla.

Zachary '01 and Eloise Odom

Morgan, a daughter, Charlotte Elise, March 14. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

Stephen and Kelly **Rodriguez**, a daughter, Havyn Astor, November 20, 2011. Stephen has taken a position as public relations and social media manager for St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas.

Ben '99 and Ansley Campbell Vinson, a daughter, Ann Campbell Elizabeth, October 27, 2011, Atlanta.

01

Dan Butler of the Myrtle Beach, S.C., branch of McNair Law Firm has been elected a shareholder in the firm.

Diana Poore graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a master's degree in business administration and a focus in international business. She specializes in exportation to the Bahamas from the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport.

Jason Vassy completed a research fellowship in general medicine and primary care at Massachusetts General Hospital in June and has taken a junior faculty position with Harvard Medical School, the Boston Veterans Administration Healthcare System, and Brigham and Women's Hospital.

MARRIAGE: **Carley Howard** and Brian Draddy, March 31. They live in Simpsonville, S.C.

03

NEXT REUNION IN 2013

Maggie Battcher Hollis has established a private lessons studio for woodwind students in the Macon, Ga., area. She also serves as a clinician and instructor at marching band camps and concert band clinics.

Joe Hoover has started Hoover Custom Construction LLC, specializing in custom homes, additions and renovations in the greater Greenville area.

Green Valley Country Club of Greenville recently announced a partnership with **Brandi Jackson** to work with golfers at the club. Brandi has been an LPGA Tour professional and is a 2012 inductee into Furman's Athletic Hall of Fame. Visit her website, www.brandijackson.com.

Tracy Wells Miller graduated from the School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., in May and was ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church June 24. On July 1 she began her first call as associate priest for adult education and outreach at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Franklin, Tenn.

MARRIAGE: **David Bruce Traggorth** and Julia Taylor Merriman, August 18. David is director of development at Mitchell Properties, a residential real estate developer in Boston, and Julia is a teaching assistant for students with special needs at the Kennedy Day School.

FOR CHRIS KEEN, A SCHOLARSHIP IN HIS MEMORY

IT WAS THE KIND OF PHONE CALL we all dread.

John Williams' voice was somber and unusually serious as he informed me that our friend and Sigma Nu fraternity brother, Chris Keen '87, had been involved in a boating accident in Nashville, Tenn. Chris was missing, and search teams were scouring the lake.

John and I quickly decided to go to Nashville to join the search. As we drove, we mulled over all the great "Keeno" stories that came to mind. We understood that the situation was bleak. After a week of searching, Chris' body was finally found. His date of death: April 17, 2011.

I met Chris Keen in early September of 1983. Lanky and athletic, he had enrolled at Furman on a basketball scholarship. As time passed, our friendship grew. He was a fun-loving person who would regularly proclaim, "I like to work hard, and I like to play hard." One of his favorite lines was, "Never let the truth get in the way of a good story." Those days were filled with friendship, wonder and excitement.

I could tell many stories about Chris — road trips to ski slopes, fraternity beach weekends, meltdowns during finals, golf outings galore, fishing trips, Kentucky "creek diving" at Furman, just to name a few.

His death shocked all of his friends. To honor him, a group of us have created a legacy in his name.

Working with Furman's development office, we have established the Chris Keen '87 Endowed Scholarship Fund. In just one year we have raised almost \$150,000. Our goal is to raise a minimum of \$250,000 for the endowment.

The recipient must demonstrate financial need and be a Furman legacy, with a parent or grandparent who attended Furman. The first recipient of the Keen Scholarship is Adam Granger '16. His parents, Frank and Teresa Hunt Granger, are both 1981 graduates, and his grandmother is Frankie Huff Granger '48. His brother is Ben '13.

Chris lived a great life. He had a wonderful family — wife Vickie and children Whitney and Tucker — and worked as a corporate administrator for Dialysis Clinic, Inc. He was encouraging and supportive, committed to his church and active in community service.

And he will always be my best friend.

— SHELLY H. SUTTON III

The author, a 1987 graduate, lives in Laurinburg, N.C.



BIRTHS: **Mike '02** and **Ashley Callahan Baisley**, a daughter, Claire Montgomery, February 2. They live in Knoxville, Tenn., where Mike is a partner at Hodges, Doughty & Carson, PLLC.

Bradley and Neely Tesseneer Benton, a son, John William, May 24. Brad received his Ph.D. in history from UCLA in June and is an assistant professor of history at North Dakota State University in Fargo.

04

Devon and **Erin Boehmke Accardi** were featured on the Season 4 opening episode of the television program "Run My Renovation." The basement in their Oak Ridge, Tenn., home was renovated for the program, which is broadcast on the DIY Network.

Mary Jennings is a singer-songwriter who performs as jENNINGS. She has worked with Billboard-charting writers, toured with national acts and had a number of songs placed on popular television shows. Her latest EP is "Take It or Leave It." She recently

completed the "Pause for a Cause Tour," where portions of proceeds from ticket and CD sales went to support various charities. Visit www.jennings-music.com.

Lindsey Mecca Nicely has been promoted to software compliance analyst at MeadWestvaco Corporation in Richmond, Va. She earned her Master of Science degree in statistics from Virginia Commonwealth University in May.

Sarah Johnston Sargent is the new women's golf coach at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. She was previously on the staffs at Coastal Carolina University and at Furman.

BIRTHS: Billy and **Laura Anne**

Bachman Andrews, a daughter, Brooklyn Anne, July 27. They live in Goose Creek, S.C.

Hagan and Dena Pope Jordan, a daughter, Ryann Elizabeth, November 21, 2011. They live in Johns Creek, Ga., where Hagan is sales operations manager for EndoChoice, Inc.

05

Ashley Adelle Jackson earned her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Memphis in August. She is employed as a postdoctoral fellow at the Memphis Veterans Administration Medical Center, where she specializes in geropsychology and palliative care. She is also chief resident in psychology.

Jordan Teague earned a J.D. degree from Vanderbilt University and has joined the law firm of Burr & Forman in Birmingham, Ala., in the financial services litigation group. At Vanderbilt, she was senior technology editor of the *Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law*.

MARRIAGES: **Paul Johstono** and Laura Ruckel, September 3, 2011. They live in Charleston, S.C., where Paul is an assistant professor of history at The Citadel and Laura teaches English at Cane Bay High School. Paul defended his dissertation at Duke University in July.

Rebecca Singleton and Drew Phillips, June 30. They live in Birmingham, Ala. Rebecca is a high school Spanish and English as a Second Language teacher and coaches cross country and track. Drew attends Beeson Divinity School of Samford University. **BIRTHS:** **Jason '03** and **Lindsey Wright Edwards**, a son, Wright Allen, February 13, Greenville.

David and Rebecca Murchison '06 Hughes, a daughter, Margaret Glynne, May 31. David is minister of students at Easley (S.C.) First Baptist Church, and Rebecca teaches in Greenville County.

06

Addie V. Kies has been promoted to counsel with the Richmond, Va., law firm of BrownGreer PLC.

MARRIAGE: **Brett Woron** and **Ali Griffin '08**, June 23. They live in Columbia, S.C.

NEW DIGITAL LOOK ON THE WAY

THE WINTER ISSUE of the magazine will come in a dual package — a print issue and an enhanced digital issue.

Tying in to an upgrade for www.furman.edu, currently set to be unveiled in mid-December, the winter issue of *Furman* will mark the introduction of a more robust Web presence for the magazine than the current format (www.furman.edu/fumag).

Kicking off with an article and a set of interviews by President Rod Smolla with experts in digital technology and the rise of social media, the new, online version of *Furman* will be accessible and adaptable for all applications, from laptop to tablet to iPhone. Readers will still receive the full content of the printed piece, but with assorted enhancements made possible by today's technology.

Once alumni and friends have had a chance to sample the new online version, we plan to follow up with an email survey to gauge interest — and to give them the opportunity to opt out of the print version and receive the magazine online only. The print version will continue, but those who prefer their information electronically will now have a better alternative.

Assuming all goes smoothly on this end, watch for the introduction of a new and improved Web version of *Furman*, scheduled for late February.

— JIM STEWART

BIRTH: **Jeremy and Jennifer McDade Murphy**, a daughter, Ainsley Campbell, August 21, Greenville.

07

Lindsay Brown is completing a three-year residency in internal medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

MARRIAGES: **Emily Diane Gilstrap** and **Jonathan Ross Colao** '10, September 15. Emily received her D.M.D. degree from the Medical University of South Carolina earlier this year and is a general dentist with Heritage Family Dentistry in Swansea, S.C. Jonathan is in his first year at the University of South Carolina School of Law.

Deas Richardson IV '06 and **Kathy McDonald**, March 3. They live in Mount Pleasant, S.C.

Sali Sumer and David Christeson, June 9, 2011. Sali recently started a leadership rotational program in Cisco's Supply Chain Organization in San Jose, Calif.

08

NEXT REUNION IN 2013

Anna Dauer graduated from the University of Louisville School of Medicine in May and is now a resident in internal medicine at St. Louis University. She hopes to pursue fellowships in palliative care and geriatric medicine.

Blaine Hart, an associate with CBRE/The Furman Co., was named to *Greenville Business Magazine's* 2012 list of the city's "Best and Brightest Under 35."

MARRIAGE: **Steven Rowe** and **Amber Simon**, May 12. They live in Atlanta where Steven is pursuing an MBA degree at Mercer University.

09

Casey Crisp, assistant director of the Bridges to a Brighter Future program at Furman, was named to *Greenville Business Magazine's* 2012 list of the city's "Best and Brightest Under 35."

Marian White was named No. 6 on *The Hill* newspaper's list of "50 Most Beautiful People on Capitol Hill for 2012." She has worked on the staff of former Rep. Gresham Barrett of South Carolina and as a clerk for Republicans on the House Judiciary Committee. This fall she began studying for a master's degree in global marketing communications and advertising at Emerson College in Boston.

Lyndey Ritz Zwing received a Compleat Lawyer Bronze Award at the May 2012 Commencement ceremonies at the University of South Carolina School of Law. The award goes to three graduating students who, through their accomplishments and their relationships with students and professors, demonstrate the potential to be outstanding attorneys. Lyndey, who was editor-in-chief of the *South Carolina Journal of International Law and Business*, now works for a firm in Columbia.

MARRIAGE: **Tarryn Gurney** and **Matt Trombley** '08, July 28. They live in Charlotte, N.C. Matt is finishing work toward a Ph.D. in economics at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, and Tarryn is an accountant with Ernst & Young.

10

Shun A. Griffin was recently elected president of the Student Bar Association at the Charleston (S.C.) School of Law.

Chapin Hardy works at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla., as a Wild Africa Trek guide in the Animal Kingdom Theme Park. She was recently the subject of a feature in *Disney Files* magazine.

Rebecca Lee Hassee of Indian Springs, Ala., has launched a business called P.E.W.S. — Purely Elegant Wedding Statements — that supplies vintage church pews as outdoor seating for weddings. Visit the website, www.rentPEWS.com.

12

Seth Gilliard (Seth G) of Charleston, S.C., has released his first mixtape, "The Covers," featuring violin versions of contemporary songs. On October 4, Seth presented a recital as part of the MOJA Arts Festival, a celebration of African-American and Caribbean arts in Charleston. Visit <http://sethgmusic.tumblr.com>.

Lee Gilmer received an NCAA post-graduate scholarship of \$7,500. The scholarships are given annually to 87 male and 87 female NCAA athletes nationwide who excel academically and athletically. Lee, who was named to the 2012 Capital One Academic All-America Division I Track/Cross Country Team, is training this year with a group of post-collegiate runners at Furman and is a volunteer assistant coach with the track and field and cross country teams. He intends to enter law school.

DEATHS

Louise Quillen Foster '34, August 7, Greenville. She served on Furman's Alumni Association Board of Directors and was active in community work.

Marie Gaskins Prince '35, July 17, Nashville, Ga. She taught school and coached girls' basketball, leading one team to a South Carolina championship. For many years she was a farmer with Prince Farms.

Robert Beverly Marriott '37, September 3, Virginia Beach, Va. In 1941 he was employed by North American Aircraft as the chief contract flight dispatcher for the P-51 program. He went on to teach and coach for George Wythe Junior High School in Hampton, Va., and in 1950 was appointed director of transportation for Warwick County (which became the city of Newport News). He retired from that position in 1977. From 1951 to 1958 he was interim pastor for Grafton Christian Church. He was a member of the Virginia Association of School Executives and the Virginia Association of School Business Officials, and he chaired the organizational committee for the Tidewater Transportation Officials and the Newport News Safety Commission.

Winifred Brandon Highsmith Estes '38, July 27, Saluda, N.C. After earning a master's degree in merchandising she became a buyer with Meyers-Arnold in Greenville and later retired from Henderson Advertising Agency. She was involved in the development of Greenville's first art museum, was vice president of the Community Council of Greenville County, and was instrumental in establishing the first City Youth Center.

James Wofford Gaskins '38, June 24, Norway, S.C. "Bill" retired from DuPont as a safety engineer and also was a teacher and coach at Williston (S.C.) High School. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

DeMaris Griner Sauls '38, August 4, Hampton, S.C. She taught English and reading for 35 years in South Carolina schools and was active in church and prison ministries.

Eugenia Turrentine Aiken '39, August 24, Florence, S.C. She was an accomplished pianist and a charter member of the Junior League, Wildwood Garden Club and The Assembly.

Norman Douglas Ellis, Jr. '39, July 3, Florence, S.C. After earning his undergraduate degree he went on to the Medical University of South Carolina before entering

the U.S. Navy, where he served as a flight surgeon during World War II. After completing military service he became a general surgeon in Florence. A former chief of surgery at McLeod Regional Medical Center, he was a former president of the South Carolina Surgical Society and a Fellow of the American Board of Surgeons.

Elizabeth Ponder Jenkins '40, June 10, Leyden, Mass. She had a career in real estate, was a co-founder of the Society of Friends in Birmingham, Ala., and was a lifelong member of the League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women.

Mary Elizabeth O'Donnell Pollard '40, January 25, Wilmington, N.C.

Elizabeth Scarborough Mascia '41, September 10, White Plains, N.Y. She was deeply involved in the Louis August Jonas Foundation and in Camp Rising Sun, devoting almost 70 years to helping the camp grow. Active in charitable and philanthropic endeavors, she was the founding president of the Day Care Center of the Tarrytowns, which was eventually named in her honor. She was also a founder of Abbott House, which supports abused, neglected and abandoned children. In the mid-1960s she was a member of the Citizens Com-

mittee for the Family Court that led to the establishment of the Family Court System in Winchester County. She was active in the Phelps Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, the Tarrytown Chapter of the American Red Cross, the Westchester Association for Retarded Citizens, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Westchester Medical Center Auxiliary, Girl Scouts, the Hudson River Patriots Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Tarrytown Centennial Committee. In 1980 the Sleepy Hollow Chamber of Commerce named her and her husband its first Couple of the Year.

Marjorie Edwards Plowden '41, June 20, Columbia, S.C. She was an elementary school teacher and an accomplished musician.

Eleanor Martin Forrest '42, August 16, Mililani, Hawaii. She was a native of South Carolina and spent most of her life in the Upstate as an elementary school teacher at three schools. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Eugene Clemson Proctor '42, September 20, Conway, S.C. He served on the Furman board of trustees for 25 years and was chair of the board for six of those years. He practiced dentistry in Conway for 40

years and was a past president of the Pee Dee Dental Society, South Carolina Dental Association and South Carolina Board of Dental Examiners. He was a delegate to the American Dental Association and a Fellow of the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. His community work extended to the Pee Dee Boy Scout Council, Conway Chamber of Commerce and American Legion Post 111. He was also a member of the Conway Rotary Club for 66 years and received the Rotary Distinguished Service Award in 1982. In 2002 he was elected to the Conway High School Hall of Fame.

Allan Reese Hawkins, Jr. '43, June 23, Jamestown, N.D. Reese joined the U.S. Navy during World War II, became an officer and saw combat in the Pacific Theater. After completing his military tour he enrolled at North Dakota Agricultural College, earned a degree in pharmacy and purchased a drug-store in Guilford, N.C. He sold the store and eventually purchased another in Jamestown, where he would go on to serve as president of the Chamber of Commerce, the Lions Club and the Metropolitan Dinner Club. An amateur actor, he was a member of Shoestring Productions. He also developed

EINSTEIN WAS VALLEY FEVER EXPERT



AFTER ESCAPING WITH HIS FAMILY from Nazi Germany in 1933, Hans Einstein grew up to build an exemplary career as an expert in pulmonary and respiratory diseases.

When he died August 11 in Bakersfield, Calif., at the age of 89, the *Bakersfield Californian* called him "a central figure in a coordinated effort to develop a vaccine designed to prevent valley fever, one of the great medical scourges of the American Southwest." Valley fever is a potentially fatal airborne disease.

After earning his Furman degree in 1943, Einstein, who was a distant relative of Albert Einstein, studied for his medical degree at New York Medical College. He completed residencies in Veterans Administration hospitals in the New York area, then moved to California, where he lived and practiced.

A longtime professor at the University of Southern California School of Medicine and medical director at Bakersfield

Memorial Hospital, he was associated with several hospitals in the Los Angeles and Bakersfield areas and was medical director of the Division of Respiratory Care at San Joaquin Valley College. He was included in the book *The Best Doctors in America*, and *Town and Country* magazine named him to its list of the nation's finest pulmonary care physicians.

Einstein, who was author and editor of numerous articles and publications, was recognized internationally as a pioneer in the study of valley fever (Coccidioidomycosis), a disease of the lungs common in the southwest United States and Mexico. He received the Meritorious Achievement Award at the 1994 Fifth International Conference on Coccidioidomycosis.

Furman presented Einstein its Distinguished Alumni Award in 2000. Bakersfield Memorial Hospital recently completed construction on a new front entrance, which is named for Einstein.

a friendship with writer Louis L'Amour, and at age 80 he was inspired to write a book, *Remembering Louis L'Amour*. He later wrote *Grandmother Alice*, based on his grandmother's journals about life in South Carolina from before the Civil War to the 1930s. With his wife, Margaret, he contributed three buildings to museums that preserve North Dakota history. The couple received the Outstanding Citizens Award from the Jamestown Chamber of Commerce in 2000, the North Dakota Travel and Tourism Award in 2001, and the Greater North Dakota Chamber of Commerce Tourism and Recreational Development Award in 2004. The spring 2012 North Dakota State Pharmacy Convention was dedicated to him.

Mary Francis Fazio Hayes '44, August 22, Dillon, S.C. She earned a law degree from the University of South Carolina and with her husband, Joseph, established the Hayes and Hayes law practice in Dillon. She practiced law for 64 years and was an active member of the Dillon County Bar and the South Carolina Bar. She served as treasurer of the Dillon House Restoration Project and was a member of the Dillon County Theater Board and the McLeod Hospital Board.

Margaret Williams Newton '45, July 8, Union, S.C. She was a retired special education teacher in Union County.

Dorothy Bates Rhyne '45, August 10, Southern Pines, N.C. She was active as a hospital and hospice volunteer.

Page Arrington Cross '48, June 24, Hilton Head Island, S.C. She served on the boards of the Salvation Army, Georgia Cleveland Home for the Aged, and Boys Home of Spartanburg, S.C. She was a member of the Assembly of Spartanburg and was active with Mobile Meals and other community organizations.

Roy E. Aycock '49, July 23, Norfolk, Va. He taught English at Old Dominion University from 1960 until his retirement in 1992, when he was named professor emeritus. He was instrumental in starting the school's Literary Club and a chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, the National English Honor Society. He was the university representative for the Rhodes Scholarship Trust and founder of the Shakespeare Ensemble. His writings appeared in a number of journals. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force, he also held teaching positions at Auburn University, Georgia Technical College and the University of North Carolina.

Lucius Sloan Fowler '49, July 28, Greenville. "Jerry" served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He later became founder and owner of B&B Roofing & Siding Co., Inc. He was a member of American Legion Post No. 3, VFW Post 1845, UCT 444, the Home Builders Association, and the Greenville Civitan Club. North Greenville University, of which he was a strong supporter, awarded him an honorary degree.

Marion Hagood Mixson, Jr. '49, September 4, Asheville, N.C. He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1950 and retired in 1974 as a lieutenant colonel. During his years in the Air Force he was a clinical chemist and hospital laboratory officer. From 1957 to 1958, while working on his master's degree at Ohio State University, he volunteered as a missionary with Southern Baptist Frontier Missions in Ohio. Following his retirement from the Air Force he worked for eight years as laboratory manager at Memorial Mission Hospital in Asheville.

Mary Catherine Henson Cunningham '50, June 21, Greer, S.C. She taught elementary school for 23 years and was a self-employed peach farmer.

Sarah Rhodes Fischbach '50, July 26, Greenville. She was a career banker and retired from Wachovia Bank as a manager.

F. Grayson Williams '50, July 26, Yorktown, Va. Upon graduation from Newport News (Va.) High School, Grayson received the Julian Gordon trophy for football and a college scholarship. His college plans were deferred when he became a U.S. Marine and served 29 months on the USS Iowa. He was discharged from the Army in 1945 and came to Furman to play football. He began his career as a teacher and coach in South Carolina before returning to Virginia, where he coached and taught at York High School until retiring in 1986.

Catherine Fielding Lewis Long '51, August 8, Rock Hill, S.C. She taught third grade at South Carolina public schools in Clover and Easley.

Dallas John Mahoney, Jr. '51, July 12, Camden, S.C. D.J. was employed by the E.I. du Pont Company for 39 years.

Lewis Voyne Stepp, Sr. '51, August 1, Dillon, S.C. He served in the U.S. Navy before enrolling at Furman. He then began a career in business by joining a training program with John Morrell and Company, an international meat packing firm, with which he worked in North Carolina and Virginia and then at corporate headquarters in Iowa. In 1967 he entered into a business partnership with Laurens W. Floyd at Dillon

ROBERTS WAS LEADING BAPTIST JOURNALIST

WHEN HE BECAME EDITOR of *The Baptist Courier* in 1966, John Roberts brought an effective combination of denominational knowledge and journalistic experience to the weekly newspaper for South Carolina Baptists. His professionalism and willingness to address controversial issues head-on earned him the respect of readers and colleagues throughout the state and region.

Roberts, who died August 15 at the age of 85, graduated from Furman in 1951 with a degree in English. During military service he was a regimental correspondent for *Stars and Stripes*, and while teaching



in Gastonia, N.C., he worked for the local paper. He followed with stints at Gardner-Webb College, where he taught and headed the news bureau, and at the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, where he published a weekly newspaper.

By the time the *Courier* called him as associate editor and business manager in 1965, the lifelong Baptist fully understood both his audience and his craft. When he retired as editor in 1996, he had significantly expanded the *Courier's* readership, overseen the construction of new offices, and held the editor's post longer than anyone in the publication's 143-year history.

Upon Roberts' death, Don Kirkland, who succeeded

him as editor, said that Roberts' "professionalism, coupled with a love for and a commitment to Christian journalism and denominational service, deserve highest praise and appreciation."

Roberts also held a number of key leadership posts in the denomination, including president of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, president of the Southern Baptist Press Association, and chair of the board of the Southern Baptist Convention's Radio and Television Commission. Furman, Gardner-Webb and Charleston Southern University awarded him honorary degrees, and he was a recipient of the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian award.

He is survived by his wife, Helen Goodwin Roberts '50, six children and eight grandchildren.

Provision Company, from which he retired at the age of 80. He served on many commissions and boards, including Dillon Lions Club, Masons, Boy Scouts of America, St. Eugene Community Hospital, Dillon County Cotillion Club, Community Bank and First Bank. He also provided support for the start-up of several successful businesses in Dillon County.

Herbert T. Welch '51, July 9, Cedar Springs, Mich. He entered the U.S. Air Force in 1951, was commissioned a first lieutenant through Officer Candidate School, and went on to be stationed in Missouri, Texas, Michigan and Canada. He was discharged in 1957 and began teaching English at Cedar Springs High School, retiring in 1992. He was active in a variety of civic organizations, including the Cedar Springs Community Players (as an actor and director). He organized two community trips a year to the Shakespeare Festival Theatre in Stratford, Canada.

Cora Lawton Gray, M.A. '52, August 31, Anderson, S.C. She was an educator for 40 years in Greenville and Anderson counties.

Michael L. McGee '52, August 25, Spartanburg, S.C. He was ordained into the ministry in 1952 and received his Master of Divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1955. He was a full-time pastor for 45 years with seven Baptist churches. After retiring in 1996 he continued to serve as interim and supply pastor. He was pastor emeritus at Morningside Baptist Church in Spartanburg, where he served as the homebound visitation coordinator. He was a volunteer with Mobile Meals of Spartanburg and coordinated the chaplaincy program at St. Luke's Free Medical Clinic for 12 years.

Rachel Haymore Pruitt '52, February 26, Royston, Ga. She was a teacher.

Walter Leslie Brown '54, May 22, Miami, Fla. Les was head of the Dade County Building and Zoning Department and was retired from the U.S. Army as a major.

Lillian Louise Marcum '54, July 27, Walhalla, S.C. Louise earned her graduate degree in library science from Louisiana State University and then became director of the Oconee County (S.C.) Library. She also taught in Anderson County and in Oconee County. A talented artist, she was a member of the Pilot Club and the Blue Ridge Art Association and was a volunteer with the Oconee County Library Association, the Red Cross Disaster Team, March of Dimes, Special Olympics and Voter Registration Board.

Jo Anne Holland Shaw '54, July 19, West Columbia, S.C. She began her career in Great Falls, S.C., where she taught English and French for two years. She also served as organist for Mount Dearborn United Methodist Church. She then taught at Dentsville and Spring Valley high schools in Columbia, retiring after 30 years. She was a former member of the Lexington County Family and Community Leaders.

Annah Berry Guest Suko '55, July 30, Reston, Va. She taught elementary school in Orangeburg, S.C., and Redmond, Wash. She was an accomplished pianist, church organist and singer, and was a published poet. She was a member of the American Association of University Women and Daughters of the American Revolution.

William L. Brown '56, July 24, North Augusta, S.C. He was a pastor for 52 years with churches in South Carolina and Georgia. While pastoring Broad Street Baptist Church in Augusta, Ga., he started a chapter of Disaster Relief.

John C. DuBose, Jr. '56, August 27, North Myrtle Beach, S.C. After serving in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers he was employed by Hamilton Beach, from which he retired as manager. He was also a successful Little League baseball coach in Hartsville, S.C.

James A. Norris '56, August 11, Williamston, S.C. He served in the National Guard and was retired from the U.S. Postal Service, where he was a supervisor. He was minister of Trinity Baptist Church in Williamston for 43 years.

IN TRIBUTE: LINDSAY SMITH

WHEN LINDSAY SMITH retired from Furman in 1986 after 38 years as university organist and professor of music, a colleague described him as "the kind of person and teacher who makes us all want to do a better job."



Upon his death October 2 at the age of 96, friends and colleagues offered similar sentiments while emphasizing his enduring influence on the music department.

A native of Greenville and a 1937 Furman graduate, Smith returned to alma mater in 1948, having earned graduate degrees from Union Theological Seminary and pursued additional study at Eastman School of Music. During his years as department chair from 1961–72 the number of music majors more than doubled, and the university's Bachelor of Music program was approved by the National Association of Schools of Music. He was also a major contributor to the design of the Homozel Mickel Daniel Music Building and the Holtkamp organ in McAlister Auditorium.

Through the years Smith worked with hundreds of Furman students, many of whom went on to leading graduate programs and to careers in organ performance and church music. One is Tim Smith '84, director of music and organist at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Scranton, Pa. He held the same positions for many years at New York's famed Riverside Church.

Tim writes, "What can you say about a teacher who gave you the technical foundation upon which so many of your future musical endeavors and opportunities would be built? What words can encompass such a gift?"

"He was a gentleman and a gentle man. Kind and caring, he expected hard work because he believed you were capable of it. He was a serious musician, but he had a wry sense of humor. He was a treasure to me, and to Furman."

In addition to his talents as a teacher and administrator, Lindsay Smith was an accomplished performer who presented recitals throughout the United States and abroad. He held church positions for 18 years at Greenville's Christ Church Episcopal and 25 years at Trinity Lutheran. He was a fellow of the American Guild of Organists and was frequently asked to consult with area churches on the design and acquisition of new organs.

He is survived by his wife, Charlotte, who joined the music faculty the same year as her husband and married him the next year; son Lindsay IV '74; daughter Elizabeth Reed Smith; and two grandsons. Memorials: American Guild of Organists, 10 N. Church St., Greenville, S.C. 29601, or Furman music department, 3300 Poinsett Highway, Greenville, S.C. 29613.

— JIM STEWART

Donald W. Wilson '56, August 6, Asheville, N.C. He was a U.S. Army veteran.

Jane Satterfield Howie '59, August 18, Greenville. She was an award-winning floral designer and a talented pianist.

Dorothea Consuelo Furman '60, July 6, Greenville. A member of Furman's founding family, she was owner/operator of Thea Furman Duffies Interiors, was a member of the American Society of Interior Designers, and was active with the university's Decorative and Fine Arts Committee.

Thomas M. Conard, Jr. '61, July 31, Port Charlotte, Fla. He was a retired general contractor and real estate broker, having worked with Oriole Homes and in his own business, Kingsway Construction. A talented basketball player at Miami Senior High School, he had recently been inducted into the school's Hall of Fame. He played basketball at Furman and also played fast-pitch softball for several years with the Clearwater Bombers.

Robert Bland "Bob" Finley '61, September 13, Belton, S.C.

Hugh Rhame Granade '62, July 13, Knoxville, Tenn. He was a professor of economics at the University of Tennessee for 18 years and was retired from the Tennessee Valley Authority, where he was chief economics director.

Rachel Crawford Imlah '62, July 30, Middletown, Conn. She was a painter and photographer who studied under private tutors in the South, Southwest and Japan. At 16 she received a commission from World Book Encyclopedia and began engineering studies at the University of Texas-El Paso, after which she studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Naples, Italy. For decades her images were displayed in solo and group shows in the United States and abroad, as well as in private collections in 10 countries. In 1999 her work was published in North Light Book's *Best of Floral Painting 2*. She taught art, was a sociopolitical cartoonist for the World Bank, and curated the First Annual Saudi Arabian Beaux Arts Exhibition at the King's Pavilion in Yanbu,

Saudi Arabia. She authored a book on seashells, one of her main photographic interests, and served on the board of the Middletown Art Guild.

Thomas Booker Dobson '63, December 20, Griffin, Ga. He was director of Georgia Baptist Children's Home in Palmetto.

Marilyn Sears Goodson '63, July 31, Greenville. She was a teacher and librarian in Greenville County for 32 years before retiring from Eastside High School, where she was recognized as Teacher of the Year. She taught Spanish at Wade Hampton High in the 1960s and Spanish and English at Southside High in the 1970s.

Phillip Michael Grier '63, August 10, Lorton, Va. After graduating from Furman as student body president, he served a stint as an intelligence officer in the U.S. Army, primarily at Fort Bragg. He attended law school at the University of South Carolina and, after earning his degree in 1969, practiced with the Haynsworth firm in Greenville for a year. He then returned to USC, where he held positions as staff counsel, ombudsman for the university, assistant to the president, and general counsel from 1972-79. He was the first attorney hired as full-time legal counsel at the school. He left in 1979 to become executive director for the National Association of College and University Attorneys in Washington, D.C., a position he held until his retirement in 1996, at which time he received the NACUA Distinguished Service Award.

Mary Ware Sanders '63, June 25, Clinton, S.C. She began her teaching career at Evans Junior High School in Spartanburg, S.C., before moving to Spartanburg High, from which she retired in 1983. She volunteered with the American Red Cross.

Charles Ray Chappellear '66, July 2, Berea, Ky. He was a jazz and commercial studio bassist and a songwriter, arranger, composer and producer. After serving in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, he pursued his music career and traveled to Paris, Rome, New York and Nashville. He worked with such artists as Dolly Parton,

Reba McEntire, Martina McBride, Harry Belafonte, Johnny Cash, Earl "Fatha" Himes, Chuck Mangione, and many others.

He was in the orchestra for the original production of *Grease* on Broadway, as well as for several other shows. He wrote music for commercials, co-wrote the musical *Klokeye*, and did big band arrangements for the Jazz Cowboys, which he founded.

Larry Earl Davis '68, May 14, Durham, N.C. He was the former husband of Linda Carol Hayes '68. He graduated from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1974 and practiced law in Asheville, N.C. A gifted writer and songwriter who had many songs published and recorded, he followed his interest in music and owned Music Square Productions, a production and publishing company in Nashville, Tenn., as well as Beaucatcher Music in Asheville. Later he owned Lewis and Davis, a real estate company.

Frances Snyder Brown Dounian '68, July 6, Columbia, S.C. She worked in the insurance industry. In retirement she volunteered for Harvest Hope, Bradley Community Council and Meals on Wheels. She was president of the Iris Garden Club.

William Richard McClellion, Jr. '68, June 19, Anderson, S.C. Dicky was an attorney and, at the time of his death, was owner of the Anderson Jockey Lot.

Gertrude Fowler Brookshire, M.A. '69, August 30. She retired from Greenville County Schools after more than 40 years as a librarian, elementary teacher and home economics instructor.

Bonnie Higgins Arrington, M.A. '70, July 31, Greenville. She spent her professional life as an educator, teaching mathematics at middle and high schools in Greenville County. In retirement she remained active in children's education as a volunteer tutor. She was the wife of Tony Arrington, longtime Furman chemistry professor.

Bennie Horton Bishop, M.A. '70, July 20, Spartanburg, S.C. She retired as a principal in Spartanburg County School District 2 and was a member of the American Association of University Women and Alpha Delta Kappa.

Judy Detyens Stewart '70, August 20, Mount Pleasant, S.C.

Pamela Shorey Jahns, M.A. '72, September 7, Greer, S.C. Pam was an educator for 42 years, 27 of them at Taylors Elementary School. She also taught science education and curriculum classes to educators at Roper Mountain Science Center.

John Bradley Richardson '74, July 10, Mount Pleasant, S.C. Brad began his career with Milliken Corporation but soon returned to his high school, Christ School in Arden, N.C., as alumni director and student recruiter. He held that position for four years, after which he moved to Charleston, S.C., and began a career in healthcare, first at St. Francis Hospital and then at North Trident Hospital. He opened clinics for military dependents in Beaufort, S.C., and Norfolk, Va., for which he was recognized by President George Bush as a "Point of Light." He was an assistant administrator of Georgetown Hospital for several years, then finished his career as an administrator at the Medical University of South Carolina. He was active with the Boy Scouts and received the Silver Beaver Award for leadership.

Carlyle Driver Bailey '79, June 17, Melbourne, Fla. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from Emory University, and went on to work as a neonatal intensive care nurse.

Patricia Brown Goodwin '89, July 27, Blythewood, S.C. Tricia was an office administrator with Ameriprise Financial and was active in church music ministry.

HEADING TO VIETNAM? THEN 'MEET ME AT JOE'S'

JOE SPRINGER-MILLER'S first visit to Vietnam in 1993 left him shaken. "I saw hunger, disease and people who were not allowed to do anything under a strict Soviet-era Communist regime. I'd never seen anything like it," he says via Skype from Mui Ne, Vietnam.

As he takes a late-evening break from work by the roaring South China Sea, a soft-lit, open-air café glows behind him, and the unhurried rhythm of an acoustic guitar mixes with the sound of crashing waves.

Springer-Miller, owner and operator of Joe's Café and Garden Resort (joescafeandgardenresort.com), seems to have found the perfect working holiday. Since he and his wife, Thao, started their business three years ago, the café has become a hub for live music, poetry readings, art exhibits and theatre, and the resort offers seaside bungalows and beautiful vistas. "Meet me at Joe's" is a popular refrain for backpackers, tourists and locals alike.

Just how did Springer-Miller, a native of Vermont, become a businessman in a far-away country that initially left him shaken? When he graduated from Furman in 1988 with a degree in drama, his plan was to become a broadcaster. So of course he wound up doing what many drama majors do — he went into sales.

But he soon itched for more. Taking the advice of a close friend, he packed all he owned, including his prized '65 Dodge Dart, into a storage facility (where it still resides 20 years later) and headed for central Japan to teach English with the Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme. Thus began the journey that continues today.

Springer-Miller adapted quickly to life in Japan, learning the language, immersing himself in the culture and exploring music with a local band. He also began traveling extensively in Southeast Asia.

Early on, a trip to Cambodia and Vietnam — where he was advised to stay on the marked path for fear of land mines and unexploded ordnance — proved eye-opening. "I wanted to visit the remotest places I could," he says. "But I was shocked by what I saw, especially after living in ultra-modern Japan. In Vietnam, people



Joe Springer-Miller and family (inset) have established a niche with their seaside resort.

were eager to tell me their stories — and everyone had a story."

Until the late 1980s Vietnam was an isolated agricultural state, hostile to Western tourists. But with economic reforms and the establishment of diplomatic relations with the United States in 1995, Vietnam slowly began to welcome the international community.

In 1998 Springer-Miller returned to Vietnam, enchanted by the country's isolation, the people and the warm reception he had received there: "I got a sense of hope that change was on the horizon, and I was witnessing not only Vietnamese history but also my own." He kept going back, and each time, he says, he "saw evidence of more and more change, happening at an increasingly rapid pace."

He explored other areas — Thailand's beaches, Indonesia's rainforests, Nepal's mountains, Myanmar's abandoned temples — but decided that, after eight years in Japan, he would move to Vietnam. "I was growing stagnant," he says, "and I was ready to try something new to maintain that feeling of perpetual growth."

During his early years in Ho Chi Minh City he worked for the Korean Consular School, developing a bilingual program for Korean kids, and became a founding member of the Saigon Players, a nonprofit community theatre group whose mission is to "uphold the arts while giving to charity." The group is popular among English-speaking expatriates.

He met his wife, Thao Thanh Tran, while working on a Vietnamese film — he was her dialogue coach. With Thao, Springer-Miller hit the circuit again, touring Vietnam for three months by motorcycle. During their trip they fell in love with Mui Ne, a once modest coastal town that has blossomed into a popular tourist

destination. They left Mui Ne as travelers — but returned as entrepreneurs.

He says, "We took an old farmhouse, got the first 24-hour restaurant license in Vietnam, and literally removed the doors." Joe's Café was born — although, he says, "It was tough trying to do this in an area where locals had grown up in traditional fishing families. Our staff members were not familiar with the food or culture."

But the hard work paid off. The business has evolved into a seaside resort, and Springer-Miller and his family, including recent arrival Mason, have a front-row seat for Vietnam's transformation.

"Vietnam is changing so fast," he says. "When I first got to Saigon, it had two traffic stops. No one drove themselves. Now you see Lamborghinis."

Although economic progress has been swift and Vietnam has become a popular tourist destination, the Communist government still regulates commerce. "It's just so difficult to do business here, which adds to already challenging work," he says. "But Vietnam's dynamism is both what I love and what drives me crazy. I used to travel to different places to witness change, but now I live in one country and witness change every day."

While he still visits the United States, Springer-Miller has not lived in his home country since 1992. Occasionally he wonders what he's missed living abroad — but not for long. "Right now it's all about this place," he says. "Every morning I'm so excited. It's a whole new kind of travel."

— CHRISTOPHER BUNDY

The author, a 1988 graduate, teaches writing and literature at Savannah College of Art and Design in Atlanta. His first novel, Baby, You're a Rich Man, is forthcoming from C&R Press. Photos courtesy Joe Springer-Miller.

THE LAST WORD

Alastair McCandless (inset, left) and Ken Dwyer were companions on the final miles to the Pacific, then shared in Alastair's celebratory dip.



MARK NORMINGTON; COLIN MCCANDLESS (INSET)

'Left leg, right leg, one leg at a time . . .'

THREE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE DAYS.

Twelve states. Approximately 4,000 miles.

All on foot. With a 40-pound knapsack on his back. *Valderi, valdera.*

When Alastair McCandless '97 waded into the Pacific Ocean October 13 at Point Reyes National Seashore north of San Francisco, he completed a journey along the American Discovery Trail that gave him a sense of personal renewal and an opportunity to make a statement. Bolstered by the encouragement of friends and family, the kindness of strangers and the determination to raise funds and awareness for a worthy cause, he persevered to the end.

His cause: the Wounded Warrior Project, which provides support for injured members of the military. His inspiration: Ken Dwyer '98, his Pi Kappa Phi fraternity brother at Furman, who lost an eye and a hand when hit by a rocket-propelled grenade in Afghanistan in 2006. The Wounded Warrior Project was instrumental in Dwyer's recovery and return to deployment status.

Leigh Gauthier Savage reported on McCandless' walk in the Winter 2012 issue of *Furman* after he had completed the first leg, a five-month trek (April to September, 2011) that took him from Delaware's Cape Henlopen to Omaha, Neb. He then returned to his home in Greenville to avoid having to cross the Rockies in the dead of winter. He headed back to Omaha in April 2012 to resume his odyssey, during which he weathered elevations of as much as 12,000 feet and lonely stretches between towns that sometimes lasted more than 100 miles.

When he finally arrived at the Pacific, Dwyer was by his side. They were joined by McCandless' brother Colin and friends Mark Normington '98 and John Byrd '02.

Alastair provided a running commentary on his blog, www.thoughtsaskew.blogspot.com. He also received a healthy dose of media attention along the way — just Google his name.

What's next for him? To start, a lot of home cookin' to help him regain the weight he lost.

A job search will also be on the agenda for the 37-year-old — although probably not in the restaurant business, his former profession. And he plans to write a book.

Maybe one more project could emerge from his adventure: a CD of inspirational road songs. His list of top traveling tunes is headed by Whitesnake's "Here I Go Again" — which he called his theme song, no doubt because he learned "what it means to walk along the lonely street of dreams."

— JIM STEWART

As the magazine went to press, McCandless had raised more than \$12,000 for the Wounded Warrior Project. Contributions will be accepted through the end of the year. Visit his blog and click the "Donate" button, or go to www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

“You don’t know what you don’t know—it is a good time to chat with someone who does.” – *Matthew Miller ‘99*

Furman Planned Giving Advisory Council

Are you prepared for the drastic estate and other tax changes happening January 1, 2013?

The upcoming reversion to the 2002 Gift & Estate Tax laws is one of the most significant tax changes to take effect in the past fifty years. From large to small estates, these new regulations will affect your financial planning—immediately and in the foreseeable future. Make sure you don’t lose this fleeting opportunity to meet with your financial planner before the end of 2012 to discuss how this loss of tax advantages will affect you, as well as how Furman may fit into your recommended planning options.

Key changes

- Estates valued at \$1 million or higher will now face a 55 percent “Death Tax.”
- Once-in-our-lifetime lucrative gift and estate tax exemptions will likely end.
- The current window for advantaged asset transfer options will close on January 1.
- A myriad of new income taxes that a 2012 action could avoid may take effect in 2013.



This message is brought to you by Furman University’s Office of Gift Planning. Steve Perry ‘78 and Betsy Moseley ‘74 would love to talk with you about how you can work with your financial planner or CPA to benefit your family and Furman. Please call us at 864.294.2458 or visit us at Furman.PlanYourLegacy.org.

Furman

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Herring Center for Continuing Education opens. **PAGE 22**



JEREMY FLEMING